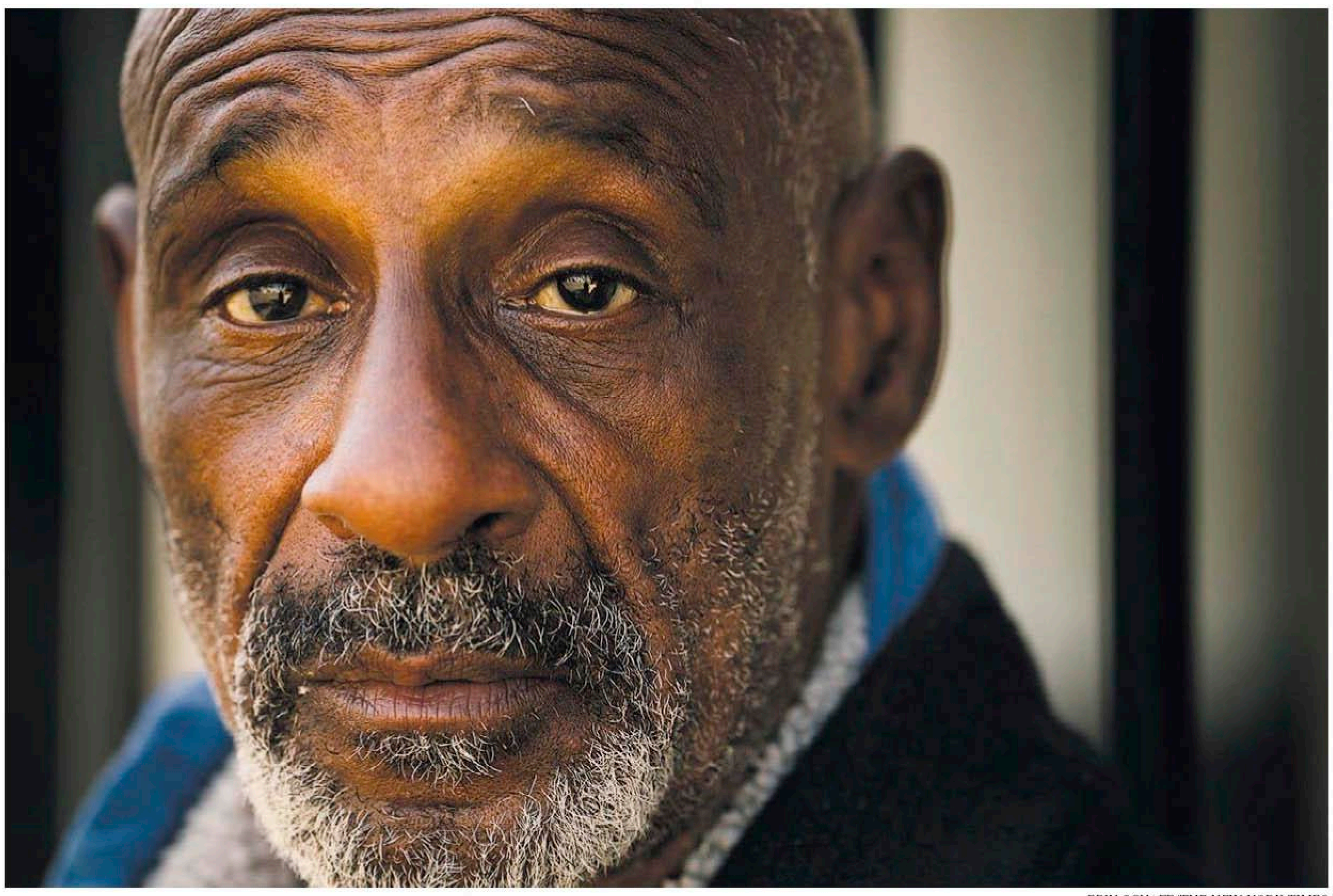
"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

LATE EDITION

Today, mostly sunny, a light breeze, high 71. **Tonight,** patchy clouds, low 54. **Tomorrow,** partly sunny skies, a light west-northwest wind, high 74. Weather map appears on Page 34.

VOL. CLXXII ... No. 59,788 © 2023 The New York Times Company NEW YORK, SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023 $6.00



ERIN SCHAFF/THE NEW YORK TIMES

The closest thing Abdul Curry had to permanent shelter was a parking garage overlooking downtown San Diego.

The Struggle to Save Abdul

'Homeless Mayor of San Diego' Tries to Survive as Record Numbers Die

By ELI SASLOW

SAN DIEGO — Laine Goettsch packed her emergency medical bag and drove into downtown San Diego to look for her favorite patient, afraid of what she might find. Sometimes, she saw Abdul Curry cleaning the sidewalks near his tent and dancing to a playlist of Ed Sheeran songs. Other times, she found him hypothermic in a wet sleeping bag and surrounded by people smoking fentanyl. And then there were the days when she couldn't find him at all, and she continued searching for hours as she braced for a call from the hospital, the police or the medical examiner.

Now she drove into a homeless encampment and saw three people huddled near a camping stove and sharing a bottle of vodka. "Anyone heard from Abdul?" she asked, but they shook their heads and turned back to the fire.

Laine, 29, had spent the last year working as a medic in the forgotten alleyways and parking garages of downtown, trying to help Abdul and dozens of others stay alive during the most dangerous time in modern history to be homeless in America. More people in the country's biggest cities were becoming homeless, more were living outside instead of in shelters, and a record number of people, from Los Angeles to Denver to New York, were dying in premature and preventable ways on the street. The toll in San Diego County had increased from 64 homeless deaths in 2014 to nearly 600 investigated by the medical examiner's office in the last year.

She drove across a bridge and spotted Abdul slumped over at the entrance of a parking garage. He had an open wound on his forehead and water dripping from his clothes, but when he saw Laine coming, he dusted off one of his old suitcases and offered it to her as a chair. "Sorry about this weather," he said.

"I'm fine, but you must be freezing," she

Continued on Page 25

Russian Elites Still Obtaining Luxury Goods

Network of Middlemen Is Skirting Sanctions

By ANTON TROIANOVSKI and JACK EWING

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — On a dusty roadside on the outskirts of Dubai, Sohrab Fani is profiting from the West's response to the war in Ukraine: his shop installs seat heaters into cars being re-exported to Russia.

Twelve thousand heating pads languished in his warehouse for years, he said, until Russia's invasion and the resulting Western sanctions drove American, European and Japanese automakers out of the Russian market. Now, Russians import those cars via Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates — and because cars shipped to the Middle East tend to be made for warm climates, accessories shops like Mr. Fani's are doing a brisk business outfitting them for winter weather.

"When the Russians came, I sold out," Mr. Fani said, so he ordered several thousand more seat-heating pads. "In Russia, they have sanctions. Here, there is not. Here, there is business."

More than a year into President Vladimir V. Putin's invasion, Western sanctions have damaged Russia's economy but not crippled it. The web of global trade has adjusted, allowing the Russian leader to largely deliver on a key promise: that the war would not drastically disrupt the lifestyle of consumption for Russian elites.

Russia is still importing coveted Western goods, enabled by a global network of middlemen.

In Moscow, the latest iPhones are available for same-day delivery for less than the retail price in Europe. Department stores still stock Gucci, Prada and Burberry. Car-sales sites list new Land Rovers, Audis and BMWs.

Just about all of the West's leading electronics, automobile and luxury brands announced last year that they were pulling out of Russia. Not all of their goods technically violate sanctions, but commerce with Russia became very difficult in the face of public outrage, pressure from employees, and restrictions on semiconductor exports and financial transactions.

Still, Russian demand for luxury items remains strong, and traders in Dubai and elsewhere are meeting it.

"The wealthy people always stay wealthy," said Ecaterina Con-

Continued on Page 9

GERMANY SHOWS UKRAINE SUPPORT WITH MAJOR MOVE

A $3 BILLION PACKAGE

Announcement Comes as Kyiv Prepares Spring Counteroffensive

By ERIKA SOLOMON and CHRISTOPHER F. SCHUETZE

BERLIN — Germany on Saturday sent the strongest signal yet of its commitment to backing Ukraine in its battle against Russian occupiers, promising more tanks, armored vehicles and substantial air defense systems in its largest weapons package for Kyiv.

The arms package, totaling 2.7 billion euros, or about $2.95 billion, amounted to roughly as much as Germany's total military aid to Ukraine since the war began in February 2022.

The move was part of a budding effort by Chancellor Olaf Scholz and President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine to draw a line under a year of rocky relations over Germany's hesitancy to provide weapons and solidify a partnership that may prove increasingly critical to maintaining European unity in backing the war.

With elections looming in the United States next year, concern is growing in European capitals that President Biden will become less willing to showcase support for Ukraine, given the potential for Republicans to use the issue against him during the presidential campaign. Europe fears an even sharper drop in support for Ukraine should a Republican win the presidency next year.

The German announcement was one of the most forceful steps yet taken by Mr. Scholz to back his call last year for Germans to play a leading role in Europe's security affairs — and to bolster their own forces — in the face of a newly perceived threat from Russia.

"We all wish for a speedy end to this terrible war waged by Russia against the Ukrainian people," said Germany's defense minister, Boris Pistorius, who has been more outspoken than the chancellor on support for Ukraine. "Germany will provide all the help it can — as long as it takes."

Continued on Page 8

ZELENSKY IN ITALY The leader met with Pope Francis at a potentially pivotal moment in the war. PAGE 8

Judge Shortage Bogging Down Asylum Process

By ZOLAN KANNO-YOUNGS

WASHINGTON — President Biden's attempt to deal efficiently with a new surge of migration following the end of Title 42 pandemic restrictions has focused new attention on a severe shortage of judges, the result of long-standing neglect that has overwhelmed the immigration court system with a backlog of more than two million cases.

The court system is riddled with yearslong delays and low morale as a work force of about 650 judges struggles to keep up with the volume of immigration cases, leaving undocumented immigrants who have long waited in the United States in limbo.

The bottleneck shows how the challenges of dealing with a surge in immigration do not end at the southern border. Even as scrutiny has focused on how Border Patrol agents will manage crowds of migrants, public officials and immigration experts say that bolstering the invisible work force of immigration judges is crucial to reforming the system.

Mr. Biden has made some progress — hiring more than 200 judges since he came into office — but is still falling short on his campaign pledge to double the number of immigration judges. Some of the judges will be working seven days a week for a time while the administration confronts the new surge, according to the Justice Department.

Eliza C. Klein, who left her posi-

Continued on Page 22



ARIN YOON FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

On the Home Front

Children of soldiers at Fort Moore in Georgia, the first base renamed for a military family. Page 13.

Lured to Their Graves by Promises of Salvation

By ANDREW HIGGINS

SHAKAHOLA, Kenya — Delirious from hunger, a believer who had brought his family to live with a Christian doomsday cult in a remote wilderness in southeastern Kenya sent a distraught text to his younger sister this month. While he begged her for help to escape, he was still in the grip of the preacher who had lured him there, promising salvation through death by starvation.

"Answer me quickly, because I don't have much time. Sister, End Times is here and people are being crucified," Solomon Muendo, a former street hawker, told his sister. "Repent so that you're not left behind, Amen."

Mr. Muendo, 35, has been living in the Shakahola Forest since 2021, when, like hundreds of other believers, he abandoned his home and moved there with his wife and two young children.

They were following the call of Paul Nthenge Mackenzie, a former taxi driver turned televangelist who, declaring that the world was about to end, marketed Shakahola to his followers as an evangelical Christian sanctuary from the fast-approaching apocalypse.

Instead of a haven, however, the 800-acre property, a sun-scorched wasteland of scrub and spindly trees, is now a gruesome crime scene, scattered with the shallow graves of believers who starved themselves to death — or, as Mr. Mackenzie would have it, cruci-

Continued on Page 10

Starving 'Massacre' Toll Rises to 179 in Kenya

DeSantis, Bruised by Missteps, Is Limping to the Starting Line

*This article is by **Shane Goldmacher, Maggie Haberman** and **Jonathan Swan**.*

In November, Representative Byron Donalds scored a coveted speaking slot: introducing Gov. Ron DeSantis after a landslide reelection turned the swing state of Florida deep red. Standing onstage at a victory party for Mr. DeSantis in Tampa, Mr. Donalds praised him as "America's governor."

By April, Mr. Donalds was seated at a table next to another Florida Republican: Donald J. Trump. He was at Mar-a-Lago, Mr. Trump's private club, for a multicourse dinner with nine other House Republicans from Florida who had spurned their home-state governor to endorse the former president's 2024 run. Red "Make America Great Again" hats decorated their place settings.

In six short months from November to May, Mr. DeSantis's 2024 run has faltered before it has even begun.

Allies have abandoned him.



HAIYUN JIANG/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Gov. Ron DeSantis of Florida is retooling his operation.

Tales of his icy interpersonal touch have spread. Donors have groused. And a legislative session in Tallahassee designed to burnish his conservative credentials has instead coincided with a drop in the polls.

His decision not to begin any formal campaign until after the Florida legislative session — allowing him to cast himself as a conservative fighter who not only won but actually delivered results

Continued on Page 17

INTERNATIONAL 4-12

What if Erdogan Loses?

European leaders would be delighted to have "an easier Turkey," while Russia could lose an important economic and diplomatic partnership. PAGE 4

Cease-Fire in Gaza Violence

Egyptian officials said representatives from Israel and the Palestinian group Islamic Jihad had agreed to a deal that ended five days of fighting. PAGE 12

Where Witch Hunts Are Real

Once driven largely by superstition in India, the brutal practice is now often simply a tool to oppress women, in many cases violently. PAGE 11



SPORTS 31-33

Goodbye, Golden State

Golden State's defense of its N.B.A. title ended, and the Curry-Thompson-Green dynasty may well be history. PAGE 32

A Rackets Revolution

Many a facility now accommodates not only tennis and pickleball but also platform tennis or padel. PAGE 31

METROPOLITAN

A Sunday Market Takes a Turn

A weekly gathering in Brooklyn started with vendors selling Mexican street food to make ends meet during the pandemic. Then the police shut it down. PAGE 1

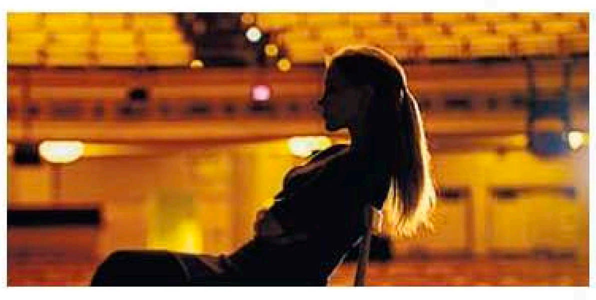
SUNDAY STYLES

Where Tiny Is Big Business

For those who fancy miniature dollhouse items, a Chicago trade show makes the heart beat faster. PAGE 1

Everyone and His Mother

Online, many famous women are "mother," a term with deep ties to the L.G.B.T.Q. ballroom culture. PAGE 4



ARTS & LEISURE

The Tony Awards

Though the writers' strike threatens the show, we look at the year's magical moments, roles and actors who found their voices. Plus predictions! PAGES 6-14

SUNDAY OPINION

Connie Wang PAGE 6

SUNDAY BUSINESS

Fight for a Motor Sport's Soul

Logan Sargeant is Formula 1's first full-time American driver since 2007. Can his sport leap from Monte Carlo to Miami without the Americanization alienating its old-school fans? PAGE 1

Your Striving 20s

Meg Jay knows that decade can be confusing as people figure out what to do with their lives. She also knows you need to get on with it. PAGE 1

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The New York Times

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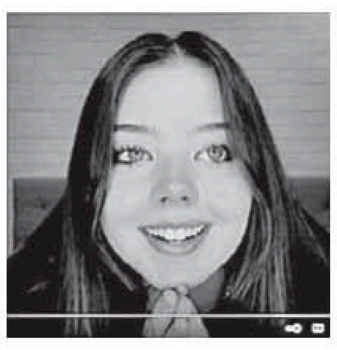
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The Newspaper and Beyond

TODAY'S PAPER

Corrections PAGE 22
Crossword THE MAGAZINE, PAGE 50
Obituaries PAGES 28-30
Weather PAGE 34







AUDIO

Millions of people have watched Whitney Bjerken grow up online through her YouTube videos. Now at 18, she reflected on her viral childhood on "First Person," a Times Opinion podcast. Listen at *nytimes.com/firstperson.*

QUIZ

As spring gives way to summer, you're sure to notice wasps and hornets buzzing around you. Can you pick a murder hornet out of a lineup? Test your identification skills with our quiz at *nytimes.com/science.*

COOKING

Looking for lighter fare for warmer days? See the Times Cooking team's collection of easy salad recipes, including crunchy greens with carrot-ginger dressing and snap pea salad with walnuts and Parmesan. *nytcooking.com*

Quote of the Day

"If there's any way I can be saved, please save me."

ABDUL CURRY, *who is among the shelterless residents of San Diego who are in a daily struggle to survive on the streets. Page 1.*

The Story Behind the Story



JAMES ESTRIN/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Milton Esterow, 94, uses a 1950 Royal typewriter to draft in-depth features on art and culture for The New York Times.

At 94, a Lifetime of Stories, and Still More to Tell

Nearly 80 years ago, Milton Esterow began a career that would forever change culture reporting.

By EMMETT LINDNER

In 1938, an article in The Monthly Star Eagle reported that a truck had crashed into a car on New Lots Avenue in Brooklyn.

The writer was a 10-year-old boy, Milton Esterow. The publisher was, too: The young, dogged reporter had created the newspaper, made 18 copies and sold them to friends for 2 cents a pop. Each was one page, written by hand.

But he kept one copy for himself, which, now yellowed and frayed, hangs framed on an office wall in his Upper East Side apartment. This is where Mr. Esterow, now 94, writes articles about culture and art for The New York Times.

Decades of reporting have taken Mr. Esterow — a Brooklyn native with the accent to prove it — around the world. He got his start at The Times as a copy boy and moved his way up. He developed friendships with artists such as Robert Rauschenberg and Henry Moore. He purchased the country's oldest art magazine, ARTnews. He produced journalism that won him a National Magazine Award and two George Polk Awards. He developed and defined a new style of culture reporting. And, about 50 years since his last Times byline, he returned to the newspaper in 2019.

"What better way, I thought, to continue my writing career than to go back to The New York Times," Mr. Esterow said in a recent interview.

His office is a treasure trove and a testament to a colorful career and life. Among the newspaper clippings and awards are photographs of his grandparents and grandchildren, books on Georgia O'Keeffe and a baseball autographed by Ralph Branca and Bobby Thomson. (Mr. Esterow, who enjoys a good stogie, met the major-league players at a cigar aficionado party.)

On his desk sits a 1950 Royal typewriter, which he uses to draft in-depth features that take several weeks to complete. Once he's finished with an article, his daughter, who lives a few blocks away, scans it and sends a copy to his editor, Kevin Flynn.

Though he is perhaps best known for his reporting on culture, the arts weren't always Mr. Esterow's passion — or his beat. In 1945, Mr. Esterow, then a student at Brooklyn College, landed a job in The Times's newsroom as a copy boy. His first assignment was to acquire horse betting sheets for the managing editor. (They weren't for an article.)

Around 1948, he was promoted to reporter. He dropped out of school to pursue journalism full time. "The Times newsroom was my journalism school," he said.

He was assigned to cover a murder in a Bronx apartment. Veteran journalists crowded the area, scribbling observations. Mr. Esterow visited a pay phone to share the facts with a rewrite reporter, Meyer "Mike" Berger.

"I thought I had a complete story," Mr. Esterow said. "Mike, very calmly, very politely, began asking questions. He wanted to know the color of the wallpaper." Mr. Esterow returned to the scene to gather more details. He left with enough for a story, but also with a firmer grasp on what it meant to be a journalist.

After spending the early part of his career on the crime beat, Mr. Esterow was asked to cover culture and the arts. He wrote profiles of philanthropists and thespians, but despite praise from his editors, he wanted to pursue stories with an edge.

By 1964 he had found a unique entry point into culture coverage: He applied an investigative style of reporting to the arts. On Nov. 16 that year, a report by Mr. Esterow on treasures stolen by the Nazis during World War II appeared on The Times's front page. At the time, it was rare for a culture story to land on Page A1.

By 1968 Mr. Esterow had been promoted to assistant to the director of cultural news. Even though he had "carte blanche," he felt a pull to run his own operation and left to lead the publishing division of Kennedy art galleries. Soon, though, he wanted more autonomy over the creative process. In 1972, he made another move: He purchased ARTnews, a magazine on the decline.

His investigative approach helped turn the publication around, and it soon became one of the most widely circulated art magazines. In the early 1980s, Mr. Esterow received a tip about a monastery in Vienna that was rumored to house thousands of works looted by Nazi soldiers.

Mr. Esterow and his wife, Jackie, flew to Vienna. After meeting with the head of the Federal Monuments Office of Austria, who he said seemed defensive, Mr. Esterow assigned a reporter to put the pieces together. When the article was published in 1984, asserting that there was indeed looted art tucked away in the monastery, "all hell broke loose," as Mr. Esterow put it.

In 1985, the Austrian government announced a plan to return stolen works to their owners or heirs. In 2016, the general consul of Austria presented Mr. Esterow with a Cross of Honor for Science and Art, saying that his work helped to make Austria "a better country."

Mr. Esterow sold ARTnews in 2014. He was 86, and his family thought he should "take it a little easy." Mr. Esterow, though, still had stories to write.

So he returned to The Times, where he continues to pursue the trail of Nazi looting. He recently wrote about German museums returning artifacts that Jews were forced to part with under the Third Reich.

Though Mr. Esterow could easily rest on his many achievements, he has no plans to retire. He estimates he has written a staggering 6,000 articles over his lifetime, and he continues to tally up new ones.

"I've really been lucky," he said. "I've been blessed with what's happened in my life and I am thankful for what I have."

But, he added, he has a big incentive to stay in the journalism game: "Work is more fun than fun."

Last Week's Top Trending Headlines

Elon Musk Appoints Linda Yaccarino Twitter's New Chief Elon Musk said on Friday that he had selected Linda Yaccarino, NBCUniversal's advertising chief, to become Twitter's chief executive. Among her responsibilities, "Ms. Yaccarino would have to deal with a mercurial and unpredictable boss in Mr. Musk," Times reporters wrote.

E. Jean Carroll May Sue Trump a Third Time After 'Vile' Comments on CNN E. Jean Carroll is weighing whether to file a new defamation lawsuit against former President Donald J. Trump after comments he made on CNN. His "vile" remarks came one day after a jury found him liable for sexually abusing and defaming her. "It's just stupid, it's just disgusting," Ms. Carroll told The Times.

George Santos Pleads Not Guilty to Fraud Charges Federal prosecutors charged George Santos, the first-term congressman representing Long Island and Queens, with 13 counts of wire fraud, money laundering, stealing public funds and lying on federal forms. He pleaded not guilty and said he's been the subject of a "witch hunt."

What's the Deal With Adulthood? 25 Years Later, 'Seinfeld' Feels Revelatory. For Culture, Maya Salam praised the sitcom "Seinfeld," which she re-watched during the Covid pandemic as a nighttime ritual. The series ended in 1998, but in an era when priorities are being re-evaluated, Ms. Salam wrote, the sitcom has taken on new relevance.

A Headline From History

ARTISTS' FAVORITE STUDY: CENTRAL PARK IN SPRING

May 14, 1984. After weeks of cold and rain gave way to sunny skies, artists of all skill levels set up easels and opened sketchbooks to depict Central Park in all its spring glory, The Times reported. "It's inspiring," Elizabeth Shane, a Manhattan accountant, said to a reporter as she began a charcoal sketch of a rock near a lake. "It would be wonderful to do this all the time." Officials said the unusually high number of artists may have been drawn to the park by the restoration of flowering shrubs, or because the presence of park rangers made them feel safer in the verdant oasis of the bustling city. One artist, Dan Gheno of Santa Barbara, Calif., said the park offered a painter "a lot of interesting contrasts: You have nature and then you have architecture in the background, the contrast of soft forms and hard forms."

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Facts of Interest

Only two major leaguers have ever hit more than 350 home runs while striking out fewer than 450 times: Joe DiMaggio and Lawrence Peter Berra, better known as Yogi.

Going to Bat for a Rare Gem In the Majors
ARTS & LEISURE, PAGE 17

This year's Chicago International Miniatures Show, arguably the world's largest dollhouse miniatures event, included ticketed workshops with themes like "Lobsterfest" (focused on making miniature lobster boil accouterments).

Huge Obsession for Tiny Things
SUNDAY STYLES, PAGE 1

A person with dementia might retain what doctors call "decision-making capacity" for years and then lose it in stages: the complex choices first, the simple ones later.

The Dementia Paradox
THE MAGAZINE, PAGE 20

Manufacturers like Mercedes-Benz pour enormous resources into their Formula 1 teams, and tech developed for the sport, like engines that recycle braking energy as an accelerant, can trickle into consumer vehicles.

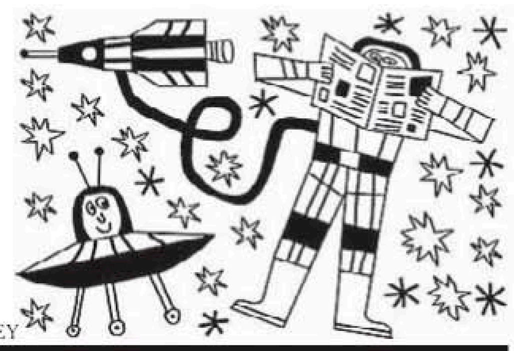
The Florida Man of Formula 1
SUNDAY BUSINESS, PAGE 1

Every day in Mexico, 10 women die by femicide, a hate crime wherein a woman is murdered because she is a woman.

The Language of Violence
BOOK REVIEW, PAGE 17

In the last four decades alone, hurricanes cost the United States more than $1.1 trillion and nearly 7,000 lives. By the end of the century, they could set the country back over $100 billion annually.

Hurricanes of Data
THE MAGAZINE, PAGE 34



MARCUS OAKLEY

The Dateline

Where Times Journalists Are Reporting Around the World



THE NEW YORK TIMES

1. HILO, HAWAII — For 60 years, the Merrie Monarch Festival has honored King David Kalakaua, credited with reviving ancient Hawaiian practices like hula, which he called "the heartbeat of the Hawaiian people." Miya Lee and the photographer Brendan George Ko covered the event.

2. ARLINGTON, ALA. — Under the "rip and replace" program, which took effect in 2020, American companies must tear out telecom equipment made by two Chinese companies that U.S. officials warn could be used for espionage. The fallout has reached rural Alabama, where Cecilia Kang reported on the tech Cold War.

3. PARIS — Workers across Paris have spent years implementing an engineer's dream: a complex plan to make the Seine clean enough for next summer's Olympians and, later, citizens, to swim in. Catherine Porter wrote about the pipes, pumps and persuasion bringing that plan to life.

4. HONG KONG — Tourists on low-budget package tours from mainland China are flooding Hong Kong, and locals are not happy. They say the groups are too noisy, are snarling traffic and are blighting public spaces. David Pierson and Olivia Wang followed budget tour groups around the city to report their article.

In Times Past

Exploring an Artifact From the Archives of The New York Times

THE ZIPPER

Why wait for the morning edition when you can write the news in light?

In the early 20th century, newspapers struggled to find faster ways than printing to relay breaking news, especially on presidential election nights. None were as famous as The New York Times's Motograph, a 368-foot-long electric bulletin board. Better known as the "zipper," it sparked to life on Nov. 6, 1928, to inform the crowds in Times Square that Herbert Hoover had defeated Gov. Alfred E. Smith of New York.

Five-foot-high words composed of 14,800 light bulbs scrolled endlessly around the sign, wrapped like a ribbon above the third floor of the slender Times Tower on West 42nd Street.

Behind the sign was a control room where operators assembled words from individual 7½-inch-long Bakelite plastic plaques, each bearing a letter made of Monel, a nickel and copper alloy. Picked up by a conveyor chain, the plaques would pass under thousands of metal brushes. Wherever the brushes touched the Monel letters, an electric current would flow briefly to corresponding light bulbs on the exterior of the tower, creating the illusion of movement.

"The apparatus is not merely an electric sign but in one sense a newspaper as well," The Times wrote on Nov. 8, 1928, another way of saying the publisher and editors were "platform agnostic" — unwedded to any single technology for conveying the news.



THE NEW YORK TIMES

The zipper, an electric bulletin board, lit up the Times building with the paper's motto.

At 7:03 p.m. on Aug. 14, 1945, mere moments after President Harry S. Truman spoke at the White House, the zipper lit up. "OFFICIAL — TRUMAN ANNOUNCES JAPANESE SURRENDER," it told the jubilant, giddy throng.

After The Times sold Times Tower in 1961, the sign was rebuilt and sponsored in turn by Life magazine, Newsday and Dow Jones & Company, which dismantled the bulb assembly in 1997 and replaced it with a digital zipper. One Bakelite "S" plaque is on exhibit today in the Museum at The Times.
DAVID W. DUNLAP

Mr. Dunlap is the curator of the Museum at The Times, a collection of artifacts and historical documents.

Here to Help

How to Properly Apply Sunscreen

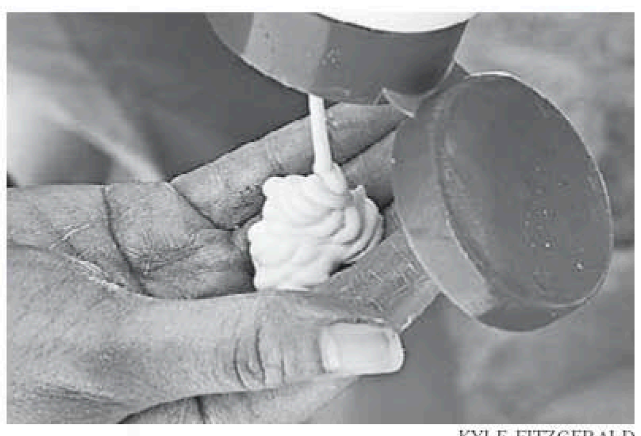
You might think that a higher sun protection factor (SPF) number on your sunscreen bottle gives you more protection. But a cream that's SPF 50 or higher still needs to be slathered on responsibly. Here are some expert-approved tips on how to do it correctly. ROSE MAURA LORRE

Apply it while you're still inside. It's best to apply sunscreen before you head outside — at least 15 to 20 minutes before sun exposure — because it needs time to soak in to be the most effective. This rule applies regardless of what kind of sunscreen you use, whether chemical, mineral or a combination of both.

Don't forget to reapply. The best time to reapply is after you've been in the water, after any sweat-inducing activity or after one to two hours — whichever comes first. If you'll have trouble remembering that, use your phone to set a timer reminding you to apply a second coat within your first hour of sun exposure.

Use the proper amount. You've probably read that it takes about one ounce to properly cover most adult bodies in a swimsuit. If you don't know what one ounce looks like, it's roughly two tablespoons, or a little less than what would fill a shot glass. That single liquid ounce of sunscreen can include the coverage you apply to your face, too.

Ask for help. And what about the hard-to-reach places? To apply sunscreen to your



KYLE FITZGERALD

back, get help from someone else, which has been shown in at least one study to provide significantly better protection compared with doing an application yourself. That study also noted that the parts of the body that typically receive the worst sunscreen protection are the ears and the top of the feet.

Be careful with spray sunscreens. Wirecutter, a product recommendation site owned by The New York Times Company, no longer recommends continuous-spray sunscreens, as inhaling aerosol particles is associated with health risks. But if you do prefer the convenience of aerosolized sprays, spray for a full two minutes in a windless but well-ventilated area. Rub in the sunscreen immediately after spraying even if it's a "no-rubbing-needed" formula.

Rose Maura Lorre is a senior staff writer at Wirecutter. For more advice, visit nytimes.com/wirecutter.

The Mini Crossword

1	2	3	4	■
5				■
6				7
■	8			
■	9			

5/14/2023 BY JOEL FAGLIANO

ACROSS

1 Only state with a three-word capital
5 Word after club, cream or caustic
6 Alcohol-heavy, as a drink
8 Walnut or chestnut
9 "Give me a hand, will you"

DOWN

1 Kind of port for a flash drive
2 Dental pointer
3 Really love
4 Brown-green eye color
7 "That's right"

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The New York Times



SERGEY PONOMAREV FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

A poster featuring President Recep Tayyip Erdogan in Kayseri, Turkey. Mr. Erdogan was slightly behind his challenger, Kemal Kilicdaroglu, in recent polls heading into Sunday's presidential election.

Prospect of Erdogan Loss Raises Global Stakes in Election

While 'an Easier Turkey' Would Delight the West, a Defeat Could Cost Moscow a Valuable Partner

By STEVEN ERLANGER and ANATOLY KURMANAEV

TALLINN, Estonia — Sunday's presidential election in Turkey is being watched carefully in Western capitals, NATO headquarters and the Kremlin, with Turkey's longtime mediating role in the complex and often vexing relations between the parties riding on the outcome.

With President Recep Tayyip Erdogan slightly trailing his challenger, Kemal Kilicdaroglu, in recent polls, the prospect that the Turkish leader could lose the election is concentrating diplomatic minds.

Officially, people on the Western side won't talk about their preferences, to avoid being accused of interfering in Turkey's domestic politics. But it is an open secret that European leaders, not to speak of the Biden administration, would be delighted if Mr. Erdogan were to lose.

As Carl Bildt, the former Swedish prime minister, said on Friday, "We all want an easier Turkey," a strategically important member of NATO that has, under Mr. Erdogan, become an increasingly troublesome partner for the European Union, which has largely abandoned the idea of Turkish membership.

Russia, too, has much riding on the election's outcome. Under Mr. Erdogan, Turkey has become Russia's indispensable trading partner and at times a diplomatic intermediary, a relationship that has assumed an even greater importance for the Kremlin since the invasion of Ukraine.

Throughout his 20 years in power, Mr. Erdogan has pursued a nonaligned foreign policy that has frequently frustrated his putative Western allies and provided a welcome diplomatic opening for Moscow — perhaps never more so than after Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

By refusing to enforce Western sanctions on Moscow, Mr. Erdogan has helped undermine efforts to isolate the Kremlin and starve it of funds to underwrite the war. At the same time, the stumbling Turkish economy has feasted recently on heavily discounted Russian oil, helping Mr. Erdogan in his quest for a third, five-year term.

Mr. Erdogan has further irritated his allies by blocking Sweden's bid for membership in NATO, insisting that Stockholm first turn over scores of Kurdish refugees in the country, especially from the Kurdistan Workers' Party, which both Ankara and Washington consider a terrorist organization.

More broadly, for the European Union and Washington there is the strong feeling that Turkey under Mr. Erdogan has moved farther away from European values and norms like the rule of law and freedom of the press.

Kaja Kallas, Estonia's prime minister, said in an interview that NATO and the European Union viewed the election differently. It is a defense alliance, she said, and "Turkey is one of the allies that has great military capacities" to help NATO in a key part of the world. "So I don't think anything changes in terms of NATO in this regard whoever wins the elections."

For NATO, of course, the hope is that a change of leadership in Turkey will end the standoff over approval of Sweden's membership in the military alliance, ideally before a summit in Vilnius, Lithuania, in July.

In Washington, Mr. Erdogan's drift toward authoritarianism, his ties to President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia and his disputes with NATO have exasperated officials — and even led some members of Congress to suggest that Turkey should be banished from the NATO alliance.



MURAD SEZER/REUTERS



MURAD SEZER/REUTERS

President Biden with Mr. Erdogan last year. It is an open secret that Western leaders would be pleased if Mr. Kilicdaroglu, above, were to win.

While the United States, the European Union and, to a lesser extent, NATO stand to gain from an opposition victory, Mr. Putin almost certainly will be seen as the loser if Mr. Erdogan is ousted.

Not only has Mr. Erdogan refused to join Western sanctions against Russia and provided a market for its oil and gas, Turkey has also become a source for Moscow of much-needed imports and a crucial link to the global economy amid tightening Western sanctions. The Kremlin also sees in Mr. Erdogan's often confrontational nationalist rhetoric the potential to disrupt the NATO alliance.

For its part, Turkey has benefited not only from cheap Russian energy, but also from Russian investment and revenues from Russian tourism, which have risen since the start of the war. Russia is building Turkey's first nuclear power plant and, since war began, has announced plans to make the country a hub for its natural gas trade.

The two long-serving leaders also share an authoritarian streak and confrontational rhetoric toward the West, emphasizing historical grievances against other world powers. Mr. Erdogan's relationship with Mr. Putin has allowed him to play the role of statesman as a mediator for Moscow's war on Ukraine, most recently by brokering a deal to allow the export of Ukrainian grain.

But Mr. Putin and Mr. Erdogan's partnership has always been based on mutual self-interest rather than ideological affinity, and the two countries compete for influence in the Caucasus and Middle East. Most notably, the two leaders back different factions in the armed conflicts in Syria and Libya. Relations grew tense after Turkey shot down a Russian fighter jet in 2015.

Mr. Erdogan has stopped short of offering Mr. Putin direct support in the war in Ukraine, and his government has angered Moscow by allowing the sale of Turkish armed drones to Kyiv.

In another worrying sign for the Kremlin, Mr. Kilicdaroglu, the opposition leader, accused Russia this past week of interfering in the country's election by spreading "conspiracies, deep fakes and tapes that were exposed in this country yesterday." That was a reference to an alleged sex tape that surfaced on Thursday, prompting a minor presidential candidate to leave the race.

"Get your hands off the Turkish state," he wrote in Turkish and Russian, though adding: "We are still in favor of cooperation and friendship."

Mr. Kilicdaroglu has promised to maintain economic ties to Russia if he wins the presidency, but it remains unclear whether he would maintain Mr. Erdogan's delicate balancing act in Ukraine.

As an indication of the sensitivity of the situation, when the United States ambassador to Turkey, Jeff Flake, met with Mr. Kilicdaroglu last month, he drew Mr. Erdogan's ire. Saying he would no longer meet with Mr. Flake, the Turkish president added, "We need to teach the United States a lesson in this election," Turkish news media outlets reported.

Europe's leaders, while silently rooting for an Erdogan defeat, are growing concerned about the potential for post-election turmoil, especially if Mr. Erdogan loses narrowly or the election goes to a second-round runoff in two weeks.

"It is a watershed election," Mr. Bildt said. "But democracy is at stake. And my second concern is that we get a result" that means a division of powers — a powerful Erdogan presidency and a Turkish Parliament controlled by an unstable opposition coalition.


"The risk of constitutional stalemate is quite high," Mr. Bildt said.



VLADIMIR SMIRNOV/SPUTNIK, VIA REUTERS

Mr. Erdogan's close ties to President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia and his disputes with NATO have exasperated Washington.

Steven Erlanger reported from Tallinn, and Anatoly Kurmanaev from Berlin. Michael Crowley contributed reporting from Washington.


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Joon Yong Kim glass at Adrian Sassoon gallery. Photography by Sylvain Deleu.
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ROME DISPATCH

A Time to Both Savor And Fear Fava Beans

By JASON HOROWITZ

ROME — As hungry Italians at the Festival for the Fava Bean lined up in a field in the Roman countryside to order fava and pecorino cheese, fava and porchetta, cream of fava on top of pasta or simply brown bags loaded with fresh fava, the manager of an adjacent garden spoke of the witch-fingered legume with dread.

"We search for them and rip them out," said Francesco Urso, 72, pointing at a sign that read "The planting of Fava is banned." The leathery green pod bulging with indented oval beans may be delicious, great for the soil and a cherished Roman springtime snack, Mr. Urso said, but the issue was one of life or death.

"Favism," he said.

While many Romans celebrate the fleeting May fava season and the coming of spring with fava-heavy picnics outside the city walls, sufferers of favism live in fear. For those with the blood disorder — which Lucio Luzzatto, a leading scientist in the field, said spread throughout the Mediterranean, Africa and the Middle East because it offered some protection against malaria — exposure to fava beans can cause acute hemolytic anemia; induce jaundice; enlarge the spleen; and prompt heart failure and death.

Around Rome this time of year, warning signs reading "In this place fresh fava are served" are taped to restaurants and markets. The near-death experiences of favism-afflicted celebrities go viral. "In the period of the fava, be careful," implored Ginevra Pisani, a television starlet who described on her social media feed turning "completely yellow, green" and fainting as her "red blood cells committed suicide."

"And I thought they were good for you, these fava," she added bitterly.

Many Italian towns have introduced ordinances banning the cultivation of fava beans within hundreds of meters of schools or the homes of the vulnerable, as some favism sufferers say a mere whiff of the insidious fava pollen can set off an attack.

Sardinia, the southern Italian island where about 10 percent of the population has favism, with the number hitting 13 percent in the south, has developed some remedies over the years.

"To heal me when I was little, they laid me down and put me up to my face in ox crap," said Beatrice Brundu, 78, from the small Sardinian town of Perdasdefogu. "And it cured me. Now, they just give me pills."

But despite the prevalence of the disease, fava beans are unavoidable throughout Italy, especially in Rome in May. They tangle in fresh market crates, freshen up dishes laden with guanciale, simmer in the beloved vignarola fresh vegetable stew. ("It's May 1," announced a waiter at Osteria la Gensola in Rome, "we have a rigatoni alla vignarola.") They are also, according to the city government's Fava and Pecorino page, "tied to the ancient usage of the commemoration of the dead."

Still, in May, the fava bean, bursting and green, is a sign of life.

At the Roman trattoria Da Felice, wine-and-sun-drenched diners ordered pasta with fava beans, peas and guanciale as Cesare Murtas, a manager who is from Sardinia, looked on beside the front door's beware-of-fava-beans sign. "My son has it," said Mr. Murtas, 52, referring to the disorder. He said he had taught his son early on to avoid the beans. "He wears dog tags that say he has favism in case he gets into a car accident."

Around the corner at Checchino, another venerable Roman institution with a warning on the door, the owner, Francesco Mariani, 62, said he had once employed a chef from Sardinia who had favism. "He couldn't even touch them," he said of the beans. "Someone else had to cook those dishes."

But he found the notion of not offering fava in May ridiculous, and argued that the entire culture of allergies and intolerances had gotten way out of control, with people expecting lab-level decontamination efforts for gluten, lactose and beans.

"Don't go to a Roman restaurant," he said. "Go get sushi."

Fava, one of the oldest cultivated crops stretching back to at least 6,000 B.C., has long been a source of protein and anxiety across the region.

The Greek philosopher Pythagoras, father of the $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ theorem, considered the fava a symbol of death. He is said to have preferred to risk fatally facing his enemies rather than run into a field of fava. His cult of vegetarian geometry enthusiasts believed that the fava bean held the souls of the dead, or that their hollow stems provided elevator service up from Hades.

Ancient writers also suggested that they disliked fava because they resembled genitalia, or a fetus, or because they caused flatulence, which drained the breath of life. Or, as Scientific American put it, because they "believed a chewed bean smelled like the blood of a murder victim when left in the sun."

In the Middle Ages, drought-stricken Sicilians prayed to Saint Joseph for rain and found salvation from famine in fava beans, which are still placed on church altars and venerated with cakes in the shape of the "beans of the dead" on All Souls Day.

The ancient Romans considered fava beans so connected to death and decay that some priests could not touch them, and they were a mainstay on funerary feast menus. For decades, tipsy Romans sang "Fiori Trasteverini," about how everything in "Roma bella" is for sale, including St. Peter's, the sky and the air, "but the Roman fava we can give away."

The hundreds of Romans at the fava festival last Sunday, in Castel di Leva, knew what they wanted. Downy green mountains of discarded fava pods stacked up on wooden tables like science-fair volcanoes. As Romans shelled and inhaled the beans, there wasn't a warning sign at the fair. "It's a Festival of the Fava," said Francesco Galli, 47, the event's organizer. "If you're allergic, maybe don't come."

At one table, Carmelina Antonini, 74, loaded the empty pods into her bag. "Nothing gets thrown out," she said, telling her dubious husband and friends she would boil the beans and then fry them with garlic and hot pepper.

She and her friends compared notes about people they had known who had favism, and she recalled that it was once a cause for discharge from the military.

"Why?" asked her friend Emilia Cucci, 77, "because the army was picking fava beans?"

Ms. Cucci recalled a traumatic incident when she was served fava beans, meant to be tender and buttery, that were "as hard and small as a pebble," leading her to launch them in protest.

Lately, she said, that while free of favism, she worried that she suffered from some other mysterious allergy that led her to "sneeze four, five, six times."

"Who knows?" her husband interrupted.

"I'm talking," she said. "Maybe it's the husband."

A few yards away, Sara Lauteri, 29, a fava vendor, stood behind heaping piles of pods, advertising how they were "super fresh, picked this morning." She stuffed them into brown bags for customers and said no favism sufferer had ever been reckless enough to approach her.

"Their red globules practically explode," she said.

Paola Romani, 59, nodded in agreement.

"It's a nasty disease — it takes you by the throat," she said. Then she opened a pod, popped some beans into her mouth and bought a bag to go with her brick of pecorino. "May," she said with a shrug, "is fava."

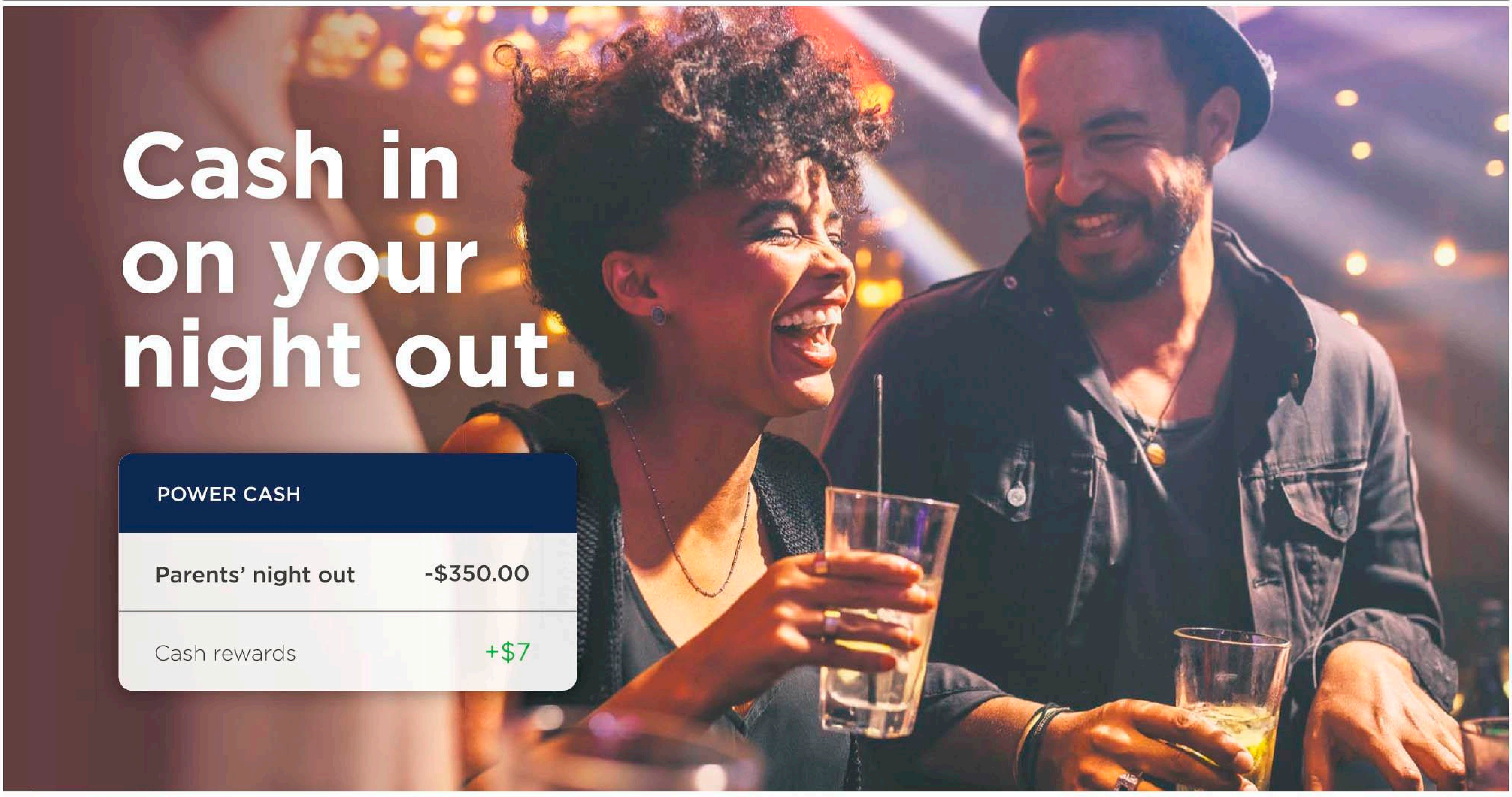
Gaia Pianigiani contributed reporting.





PHOTOGRAPHS BY MASSIMO BERRUTI FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Festival for the Fava Bean outside Rome. In Italy, fava beans are a sign of life, but for sufferers of favism, they're a health risk.



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Sweden Wins Eurovision as U.K. Hosts a Party Celebrating Ukraine

By ALEX MARSHALL and MARIA VARENIKOVA

LIVERPOOL, England — The Eurovision Song Contest grand final, held in Liverpool, England, on Saturday, was meant to be Ukraine's party.

After Ukraine won last year's edition of the beloved, campy singing competition, it won the right to host this year's spectacle. But with Russia's invasion showing no sign of ending, the event was relocated to Liverpool.

In the midst of a war, and with millions watching live, Ukraine's entrant, Tvorchi, was among the favorites to win this year's edition of the glamorous and, often, oddball event — a sign of the European public's continuing solidarity with Ukraine against Russia's invasion.

Instead, Sweden crashed the celebration. Around midnight in the M&S Bank Arena, Eurovision's hosts announced that the pop singer Loreen had won with "Tattoo," a dance track that grows in intensity with each verse.

Loreen was the bookmakers' favorite for the competition, thanks to both her catchy track and Eurovision pedigree, having won once before, in 2012. Her victory means that Sweden, a Eurovision-obsessed nation, will host next year's contest.

Ukraine's entry, the pop act Tvorchi, finished in sixth place.

Eurovision, which started in 1956 and is now onto its 67th edition, is the world's most-watched cultural event. Each year, entrants representing countries across Europe and beyond face off, performing original songs in the hope of securing votes from watching viewers and juries.

Britain's public broadcaster, the BBC, which organized this year's contest, promised it would host a party for Ukraine, and in Liverpool on Saturday, the war-torn country's presence was inescapable. Eurovision fans walked the city carrying Ukrainian flags, and dozens of Ukrainian art installations could be seen in prominent locations around the city.

In Kyiv on Saturday, the event offered a diversion from the battlefield. At the Squat 17b bar in the city, Eurovision fans gathered to watch the show, dedicating their first round of applause to the Ukrainian Army.

Participants were careful not to directly mention Russia.

Kyiv's daily curfew starts at midnight, and the bar shut at 8:30 p.m. so that people could get home; fans could not watch the whole event there. Still, at one table, a group of friends sang along while they could.

"It's a piece of happiness," said Olha Tarasenko, 24. Ms. Tarasenko said she remembered Ukraine's victory at last year's event. When Kalush Orchestra, a rap-folk group, triumphed, "I was crying, and felt like everything is possible," she said.

European solidarity with Ukraine was clear throughout Saturday's spectacle in Liverpool. It opened with a video of Kalush Orchestra performing on a subway train in Kyiv, before the band appeared onstage to almost deafening cheers.

Later in the broadcast, Julia Sanina, one of the evening's TV hosts, went into the audience and spoke with displaced Ukrainians living in Britain who had been given discounted tickets to the final. And, in a special guest performance, Duncan Laurence, a Dutch pop star, gave a rousing rendition of Gerry and the Pacemakers' "You'll Never Walk Alone," accompanied by a choir in Kyiv via video. "Walk on, walk on, with hope in your heart," the choir sang, "And you'll never walk alone."

The show's hosts and competitors were careful not to actually mention or criticize Russia, which last year was banned from participating in the contest because of its invasion of Ukraine. Eurovision is meant to be a nonpolitical event, and overt political statements are banned.

On Friday, that rule stirred controversy in Britain after President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine asked to speak during the final, but was rebuffed. The European Broadcasting Union, which oversees Eurovision, said in a news release that "regrettably" an address by Mr. Zelensky would have breached its rules.

Shortly after the union's decision, a spokesman for Prime Minister Rishi Sunak of Britain told reporters that Eurovision's apolitical nature wasn't a good enough excuse. "The values and freedoms that President Zelensky and the people of Ukraine are fighting for are not political, they're fundamental," the spokesman said, according to a report on the BBC.

Still, the nonpolitical rule was stretched to breaking point on Saturday night, with several participants performing songs that hinted at Russia's invasion. During Tvorchi's performance of "Heart of Steel," the band sang lyrics including: "Despite the pain, I continue my fight."

On Saturday night, even with Tvorchi's sixth place finish, Ukrainian culture was on display right until the end of the spectacle.

After Loreen accepted the Eurovision trophy, Julia Sanina, the Ukrainian TV host, appeared onstage to thank Liverpool for being "an amazing host on behalf of Ukraine." She then quoted the slogan of this year's contest: "We will always be united by music."

Alex Marshall reported from Liverpool, England, and Maria Varenikova from Kyiv, Ukraine.



DOMINIC LIPINSKI/GETTY IMAGES



OLI SCARFF/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

Loreen, above, representing Sweden, won this year's Eurovision. She also won in 2012. Ukraine's entrant, Tvorchi, left, finished sixth. With war raging, the show could not be staged in Ukraine.



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War in Ukraine

Zelensky Meets With Pope as Kyiv's Troops Advance Near Bakhmut

Italian Leaders 'Bet on Victory'

By JASON HOROWITZ

ROME — Weeks after Pope Francis bewildered the Ukrainian government with talk of a secret peace mission, President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine met Francis in the Vatican on Saturday, part of a whirlwind visit to Rome that included talks with Italy's president and Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, both of whom offered their full support.

Mr. Zelensky's discussions in Rome of war and peace come at a potentially pivotal moment in the fight against Russia, as Ukrainian forces make advances near the key eastern city of Bakhmut ahead of a widely anticipated Ukrainian counteroffensive, and as Germany announced its largest military aid package for Ukraine since the war began, saying it would provide 2.7 billion euros worth of weapons.

Italy added to that momentum, with Ms. Meloni, who greeted Mr. Zelensky warmly before a 70-minute meeting, affirming her staunch support of Ukraine's war effort.

"We bet on the victory of Ukraine," said Ms. Meloni, appearing next to Mr. Zelensky, whom she called her "friend" in a news conference at the Chigi Palace, the seat of Italian government, after the meeting. "Our support will be at 360 degrees for all the time necessary, and beyond."

She said Mr. Zelensky's decision to begin his most recent sweep through Europe in Rome — he is expected to visit Germany on Sunday — showed that Italy was a "protagonist" in the support of Ukraine, a "victim of a brutal and unjust aggression on the part of the Russian Republic." She said Italy would continue to supply Ukraine with aid, "also military."

Mr. Zelensky, who on Twitter had called the visit important for his country's "approaching victory," thanked Italy repeatedly for its assistance.

But the centerpiece, and most delicate stop, of Mr. Zelensky's trip to Rome came as his motorcade rumbled up St. Peter's Square and he walked through a Vatican entrance flanked by Swiss Guards and, wearing his trademark sweatshirt, shook Francis' hand before sitting across a desk for a 40-minute meeting.

The pope has sought to position himself as a potential peacemaker in a way that critics, including Ukrainian officials, argue is counterproductive to the achievement not only of Ukrainian victory, but also of a real and just peace.

To preserve the Vatican's traditional neutrality, Francis, while consistently expressing sympathy for the suffering of Ukrainians, has made often confusing and contradictory remarks about whether he blames President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia for the invasion of Ukraine. After recently meeting with Russian sympathizers in Hungary, the pope has sought to thrust himself into the discussion about the war's endgame, cryptically speaking about "a mission going on now, but it is not public yet" to bring peace, adding "when it is public I will talk about it."

Both Russia and Ukraine, overwhelmingly Orthodox, and not Roman Catholic, countries, said they had no idea what the pope was talking about. But the Vatican insisted that a peace plan was in the works. It was not clear if Mr. Zelensky's visit was part of that plan, or resulted from the Ukrainian leader's efforts to explain in person why such talk could be detrimental.

"I asked to condemn Russian crimes in Ukraine," Mr. Zelensky said in a statement after the meeting with Francis, who gave him a bronze olive branch. "Because there can be no equality between the victim and the aggressor. I also talked about our Peace Formula as the only effective algorithm for achieving a just peace. I proposed joining its implementation."

Asked afterward on Italian television whether Francis, who had sought to stake out an equidistant position between Ukraine and Russia, could be a peacemaker between him and Mr. Putin, Mr. Zelensky said "with all respect for His Holiness," Ukraine did not need mediators because "you can't do mediation with Putin." He said victory on the battlefield was essential, and coming, and saw no point in speaking with Mr. Putin, who was clearly acting in bad faith. "What are we going to talk about?"

The Vatican said only that the two men discussed the war and Francis assured Mr. Zelensky of his "constant prayer" for Ukraine and its most vulnerable, and that both men agreed on the need for continued humanitarian aid.

On Saturday, even before Mr. Zelensky's arrival, Francis who abhors the arms trade and who has shown deep anxiety about the suffering caused by the 15-month conflict, spoke about how the war had "brought unspeakable suffering and death." He added in a tweet a prayer for "paths of encounter and dialogue that lead toward peace, and grant us the courage to trod them without hesitation."

Mr. Zelensky and Francis met in Rome for an official visit in 2020 before the war. But since Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022, the pope has declined various invitations from the Ukrainian government to meet Mr. Zelensky in Kyiv.

Francis has stated that, in his hopes of eventually playing the role of a negotiator, he wanted any visit to Ukraine to be in conjunction with a visit to Moscow, but Mr. Putin has repeatedly made it clear that he wanted no such visit.

Francis' openness to dialogue has also, especially in the beginning of the war, drawn criticism for assuming a neutrality that critics considered morally questionable in the face of clear Russian aggression.

There was no such ambiguity from the Italian government.

A visit before what could be a pivotal shift in the war.

Analysts expected Mr. Zelensky to ask for more Italian military support, especially for antiaircraft weapons.

"Today we discussed our cooperation, particularly security and military cooperation," Mr. Zelensky said at a news conference. "There are very important decisions regarding the protection of our sky."

Ms. Meloni has remained solid in her defense of Kyiv and she warned about a widespread "propaganda" effort by Russia to distract from the fact that it had invaded Ukraine. She said that Ukraine's independence was the only acceptable outcome, and that peace could not be attained "with surrender" by Kyiv.

She called for the withdrawal of Russian forces and the end of its aggression, which she described as "dangerous for all of Europe and all the nations of the world."

But Ms. Meloni, who appeared next to Pope Francis on Friday at an event about bolstering the Italian fertility rate, also had to manage her neighbor in the Vatican across the Tiber River, saying that she supported the efforts of the pope, adding, "we are very happy for this initiative."

Mr. Zelensky, who thanked "Giorgia" for Italy's role in defending Ukraine and accepting so many of its refugees.

But as Mr. Zelensky seeks to shore up concrete support of bullets, missiles and other arms for his country's defense, he has also sought to win over the pope. Despite the pontiff having no divisions, as Stalin once famously noted, he still exercises a moral authority that Mr. Zelensky wants more clearly on his side.

Supporters of Ukraine worried that the pope's eagerness to play a constructive role was making him a pawn of Mr. Putin and the Russian Orthodox Church, which has sought to give religious legitimacy to the invasion.

Adding to Ukrainian concerns were the pope's kind words for Aleksandr Avdeyev, for years the Russian ambassador to the Holy See, whom he has praised in the past. On the flight back from Budapest he called Mr. Avdeyev "a great man, a man comme il faut, a serious, cultured and balanced person."

On Saturday, the Italian newspaper Il Messaggero reported that Francis had met this past week with Mr. Avdeyev and may have given him a letter to take back to Mr. Putin. That close relationship vexed Ukraine's ambassador to the Holy See, Andrii Yurash, who recently met with top Vatican officials to express Kyiv's concerns that the Russian Orthodox Church was trying to gain "legitimacy" through its relationship with the Vatican for "obvious aims of Russian propaganda."

The Vatican has actively tried to engage with both sides, working on prisoner releases and promising the Ukrainians that it would do what it could to help return children taken by Russia.

In May 2022, Francis wondered in an interview with the Corriere della Sera, an Italian newspaper, whether "NATO barking at Russia's doors" may have "facilitated" anger from the Kremlin that led to the invasion.

On Saturday, Ms. Meloni, at least, made it clear that the Italian government saw the blame resting fully on Russia, and that the only acceptable peace was one that met Ukraine's conditions.

"We are not so hypocritical as to call peace," she said, anything that "resembles an invasion."



ALESSANDRA TARANTINO/ASSOCIATED PRESS



VATICAN MEDIA, VIA REUTERS

President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine with Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni in Rome, above, and at the Vatican with Pope Francis, who assured him of his "constant prayer" for Ukrainians.

Germany Reaffirms Its Support of Ukraine With $2.95 Billion in Military Aid

From Page 1

Though the additional arms will no doubt be welcomed by Ukraine, it was not certain they would arrive in time for its much anticipated counteroffensive against Russian forces, which will be powered by new supplies of advanced Western equipment, including tanks and armored personnel carriers.

In recent days, as Kyiv's forces made advances near Bakhmut, the eastern city that more than any other has come to stand for the mounting costs of the war, Russia's pro-war bloggers interpreted the move as a signal that the Ukrainian push had begun.

But Mr. Zelensky told the BBC last week that Ukraine wanted more weaponry and ammunition to arrive before starting the offensive, even though NATO's top military commander has said that nearly all of the combat vehicles promised by Ukraine's Western allies have been delivered.

The German promise of new heavy weapons came the day before Mr. Zelensky was to be awarded the prestigious Charlemagne Prize, bestowed by the German city of Aachen to someone who has done the most to promote European unity.

Previous winners have included Winston Churchill, Pope Francis, Angela Merkel and Bill Clinton. The judges' decision to award the prize to Mr. Zelensky and the people of Ukraine underscored both how the war in Ukraine has united Europeans and the irony that Ukraine is not a part of the European Union, despite Kyiv's strong entreaties to join.

German news media were reporting that Mr. Zelensky, who was in Rome on Saturday meeting with Italian leaders including Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, would come to Germany to collect the prize.

In any case, the offer of the prize, and now the German arms package, presented perhaps the best chance yet for Mr. Zelensky and Mr. Scholz to reset relations that have been characterized by months of tensions, sniping and diplomatic missteps.

"It's a very open moment right now," said Ulrich Speck, an independent analyst who writes a foreign policy newsletter in Berlin. "I think a new dynamic is going to start. And so Zelensky wants to shore up Germany. He wants to repair this relationship, because he needs to be able to call up Scholz without the bad feelings we have seen in the past."

Even before the war, Kyiv, like many Eastern European capitals, had long been frustrated with German eagerness to pursue economic ties with Russia — which they argued came at their expense. That was especially so in the case of the now suspended and sabotaged Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline project, which bypassed Ukraine by running under the Baltic Sea.

German hesitation to break its post-World War II taboo about sending weapons to conflict zones and to act more forcefully as a leader on security matters aggravated tensions further.

In the lead-up to Russia's invasion of Ukraine last year, Germany pledged 5,000 helmets for Kyiv's forces, instead of weapons, provoking the ire of allies and Ukrainians alike.

A few days after the invasion, Mr. Scholz sought to end that era of reluctance with a speech calling for a "Zeitenwende," or "turning point," for his nation. But in the months that followed, Germany did not follow through with robust action, repeatedly lagging on delivering weapons and provoking widespread criticism in Europe.

Tensions reached a low point over the stalled delivery of German-made Leopard 2 tanks. Mr. Scholz, wary of making any move that could be seen by Moscow as an escalation, declined to send the German-made tanks or to permit re-export licenses to Ukraine by other countries with the tanks in their supplies.

He insisted that Germany would not "go it alone" and would not relent without parallel moves by the United States, which has provided $37 billion in military aid and pledged to send some of its own tanks, clearing the way for Mr. Scholz to give a green light.

The package announced on Saturday — which includes 30 Leopard 1A5 main battle tanks, 20 armored infantry fighting vehicles, four IRIS-T SLM air defense systems, 100 armored fighting vehicles and 200 drones — may be the clearest sign yet of a German turnaround.

German lawmakers have also tried to change Ukraine's perception that they are still more interested in relations with Russia, said Andrea Römmele, a political analyst at the Hertie School, a university in Berlin.

A prime example, she said, was a visit to Kyiv in March by Rolf Mützenich, the parliamentary leader for Mr. Scholz's Social Democrats, a party that long seemed divided on its support for the war. "The face of the hesitant left wing of the S.P.D. also going to Kyiv — that was a very important gesture," she said, referring to the party.

For Mr. Zelensky, there are mounting reasons to accept the olive branch.

"If I was a Ukrainian, I would be looking for some leadership in Europe for my cause," said Thomas Kleine-Brockhoff, a scholar at the German Marshall Fund in Berlin. "Zelensky sees the writing on the wall: It is going to be increasingly hard for Biden and the U.S. Congress to get the support that is needed."

Ukraine is also watching warily as countries that declare neutrality in the war, particularly China and Brazil, offer themselves as mediators. In the absence of a U.S.-led effort, Kyiv would have preferred to see Berlin or Paris drive negotiations, a Ukrainian official told The New York Times before the Zelensky visit.

But a role for France's president, Emmanuel Macron, is being regarded with caution by European allies and Ukraine after he made remarks that seemed to placate China during a recent visit to Beijing. They are also wary of his consistent calls for "strategic autonomy" from the United States and for Russia to be included in any European postwar security architecture.

That leaves Germany. Ukrainian and German officials privately said that Mr. Zelensky might be hoping to persuade Mr. Scholz to play a more influential role when it comes to European support for the war, or even in mediating a peace settlement.

That is something the chancellor has been reluctant to do.

The chancellery argues that its cautious and slow approach, which faced so much criticism from allies, is the very reason Berlin is technically in the best position of Kyiv's main partners, and that it has allowed a divided German population to grow accustomed to the changing security architecture in Europe.

"As opposed to the United States, you don't see a drop-off of support here," Mr. Kleine-Brockhoff said. "But does that mean this country would be ready to increase as American support is weakening? That I'm very doubtful about."

Erika Solomon reported from Berlin, and Christopher F. Schuetze from London. Victoria Kim contributed reporting from Seoul, Shashank Bengali from Istanbul and Eric Schmitt from Washington.



TYLER HICKS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

A family in Sloviansk sifted through their ruined home after a Russian missile strike on Thursday. Ukraine is thought to be preparing a counteroffensive powered by advanced Western equipment.

War in Ukraine

Network of Middlemen Ensures Luxury Goods Keep Flowing to Russia

From Page 1

dratiuc, the director of communications at a Dubai luxury car showroom who recently shipped a $300,000 Porsche Cayenne Turbo GT to a Russian dealership. The war, she added, "did not affect them."

In Dubai, buyers roam the showrooms of a sprawling auto market, haggling for Western cars — the Dodge Ram is a recent favorite — to purchase in cash and ship to Russia. Some are wealthy Russians buying vehicles for themselves, or small-time entrepreneurs looking to resell cars for a quick buck.

In other cases, Russian car dealerships, having lost their official affiliations with Western brands, are organizing their own imports, sometimes of hundreds of cars at a time.

The Russian analytics company Autostat reported that such indirect imports accounted for 12 percent of the 626,300 new passenger cars sold in Russia in 2022.

Electronics also take circuitous routes to the Russian market. In Dubai's old commercial neighborhood, Deira, electronics wholesalers have scrambled to recruit Russian-speaking staff.

"It's an open secret thing," said the owner of Bright Zone International General Trading L.L.C., a few storefronts down from a wholesaler of hair extensions. "Competition is very tough right now for Russia."

The owner, who requested that he only be identified by his last name, Tura, said he shipped hundreds of smartphones and laptops into Russia last year ahead of the holiday season. One potential buyer wanted a quote for 15,000 iPhones, Mr. Tura said, but apparently found a better deal elsewhere.

Anton Troianovski reported from Dubai and Jack Ewing from New York. Reporting was contributed by Vivian Nereim from Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Ahmed Al Omran from Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, and Oleg Matsnev from Berlin.

In another electronics shop nearby, an Afghan salesman, Abdullah Ahmadzai, said he had arrived in Dubai less than a year earlier, and had since learned enough Russian to negotiate with his Russian-speaking customers. Across the street, a man from Tajikistan, a former Soviet republic, said he and his colleague quickly found employment in a shop selling phones, laptops and drones.

"All the stores here are looking for people who speak Russian," he said. "We got lucky."

After many Western companies pulled out of Russia, Mr. Putin's government encouraged unauthorized imports of their goods from other countries. The Russian trade ministry published a list of dozens of companies whose products could be imported without their makers' consent, including Apple, Audi, Volvo and Yamaha.

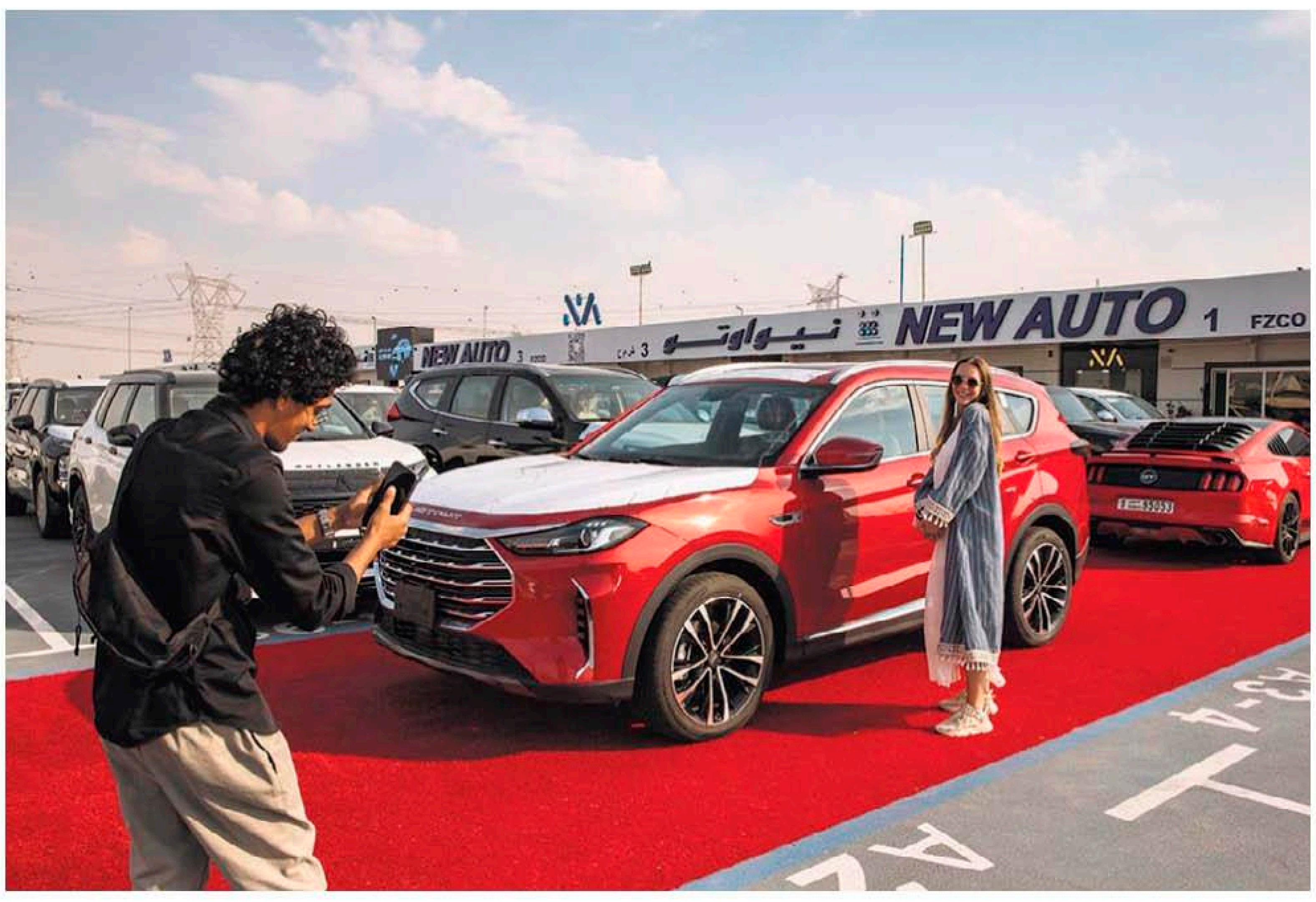
"Whoever wants to bring in whatever luxury goods will be able to do it," Mr. Putin pledged last May.

One Russian report estimated that such "parallel imports" of laptops, tablets and smartphones totaled $1.5 billion last year. At the same time, Chinese cars and electronics have flooded onto the Russian market.

"You can bring over whatever you want, as long as you have money," said Pyotr Bakanov, an auto journalist based in Moscow. "Everyone who isn't lazy is bringing cars over."

The new trade routes largely pass through countries that have friendly relations with Moscow. Western analysts and officials have pointed to Turkey, China and former Soviet republics like Armenia and Kazakhstan as countries redirecting Western goods to Russia. They say that the Kremlin is taking advantage of those imports not just to mollify a populace used to foreign phones and cars, but also to source microchips for weapons used against Ukraine.

Mr. Bakanov, like other Russian car bloggers and journalists, has gotten into the business himself: he posts advertisements on the messaging app Telegram, offering to import cars "to order from any part of the world." He said that foreign car parts are also coming in via parallel import — some are now available in Russia for lower prices than before the war, when those parts were sold by authorized dealers charging premiums.





PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREA DICENZO FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

A Russian-speaking sales agent posed for social media content at a car dealership near Dubai, United Arab Emirates, top. Fitting seats with heaters before vehicles are shipped to Russia, above.

The workarounds have become so widespread that Russian car publications run regular reviews of cars made for foreign markets. The multimedia console in the Toyota Camry made for China only operates in Chinese, a popular auto website warned in February; the reviewer suggested holding a smartphone translating app up to the display.

In the Dubai car market one March evening, Sergei Kashkarov sat in the passenger seat of a parked gray Toyota, negotiating his latest deal: sending six Mitsubishi cars to a dealership in the Siberian city of Novosibirsk by ferry and truck, via Iran and Kazakhstan. Mr. Kashkarov had moved to Dubai from Siberia in 2021 and, after the invasion, established himself as a broker connecting Russian car dealers with Dubai suppliers.

"I've got plenty of work," he said. "I'm really not complaining."

The new trade patterns show up in international statistics; car exports from the European Union to Russia, for instance, dropped to about 1 billion euros in 2022, from 5 billion euros in 2021.

But E.U. exports to Kazakhstan rose nearly fourfold, to more than 700 million euros, and exports to the Emirates rose some 40 percent, to 2.4 billion euros. Armenia reports that its car imports more than quintupled to $712 million last year.

Western car companies generally deny knowledge of their cars going to Russia in any significant quantities, or of a spike in sales in the Emirates.

"We haven't seen any of that," said Jim Rowan, the chief executive of Volvo.

Paul Jacobson, the chief financial officer of General Motors, said, "I'm not aware of anything going to Russia."

Carmakers would have trouble tracking sales of vehicles through intermediaries, industry officials say. And U.S. officials responsible for enforcing restrictions have focused more on goods that can be used for military purposes.

The United Arab Emirates has been identified as a "country of focus" by U.S. officials for its role as a hub for products shipped to Russia in violation of sanctions. Electronics are of particular concern, officials say, because their chips can be repurposed for military use.

"The U.A.E. has strict measures in place governing import and export permits for dual-use materials to prevent their exploitation for military purposes," an Emirati official said in a statement.

Browsing in Dubai's auto market, a group of three men said they split their time between Russia and Armenia. They refused to say what they did for a living but they described the import and resale of cars as a lucrative side business; one said he had bought around 100 cars in the last year.

"Dubai is a three-in-one," a man who gave his name as Aik quipped. "You go on vacation, you buy a car for yourself, and you buy some to resell."



Sense. Modular sofas, armchair and ottomans, designed by Studio Roche Bobois.

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Lured to Their Graves in Kenya by Promises of Salvation

From Page 1

fied themselves so that they could meet Jesus.

As of this past week, 179 bodies have been exhumed and moved to a hospital mortuary in the coastal town of Malindi, around 100 miles east of Shakahola, for identification and autopsy. The government's chief pathologists has reported that while starvation caused many deaths, some of the bodies showed signs of death by asphyxiation, strangulation or bludgeoning. Some had had organs removed, a police affidavit said.

Hundreds more people are still missing, perhaps buried in undiscovered graves. Others are wandering the property without food like Mr. Muendo — whose wife and children are missing, his sister said.

The horrific scale of what the Kenyan news media called the "Shakahola Massacre" has left the government struggling to explain how, in a country that counts itself among Africa's most modern and stable nations, law enforcement had for so long missed the macabre goings-on in an expanse of land located between two popular tourist destinations, Tsavo National Park and the Indian Ocean coast.

That so many people disregarded the most basic human instinct to survive and chose instead to die through fasting has raised sensitive questions about the limits of religious freedom, a right that is enshrined in the Kenyan Constitution.

Evangelical Christianity — and freelance preachers — have surged in popularity across Africa, part of a religious boom on the continent that stands in stark contrast to the rapid secularization of former colonial powers like Britain, which governed Kenya until 1963. About half of Kenyans are evangelicals, a far higher proportion than in the United States.

Unlike Roman Catholic or Anglican churches, which are governed by hierarchies and rules, many evangelical churches are run by independent preachers who have no oversight.

Kenya's president, William Ruto — a fervent believer whose wife is an evangelical preacher — has been wary of imposing restrictions on religious activities, though last week he asked a group of church leaders and legal experts to propose ways to regulate Kenya's chaotic faith sector.

For Victor Kaudo, a rights activist in Malindi who visited Shakahola in March, the freedom granted preachers like Mr. Mackenzie has gone too far. Tipped off by defectors from the cult, Mr. Kaudo found emaciated believers who, though in the throes of death, cursed him as "an enemy of Jesus" when he tried to help.

A starving woman, her head shaved on orders from the cult leadership, flailed angrily on the ground as Mr. Kaudo approached offering sustenance, a video he recorded showed.

"I wanted these starving people to survive, but they wanted to die and meet Jesus," Mr. Kaudo recalled. "What do we do? Does freedom of worship supersede the right to life?"

Mr. Mackenzie has told investigators that he never ordered his followers not to eat and merely preached about the End Times agonies prophesied in the Book of Revelation, the final chapter of the New Testament. He was arrested in April, set free and then quickly rearrested. He is under investigation over accusations of murder, terrorism and other crimes. His lawyer declined to comment.

Appearing briefly before a court in Mombasa this month, Mr. Mackenzie, 50, wearing a pink jacket, cut a jaunty figure as he waved imperiously from inside a metal cage to get the magistrate's attention. The magistrate ignored him and extended his detention.

'A Normal Church at the Beginning'

Mr. Mackenzie's journey from destitute taxi driver to cult leader with his own television channel began in 2002 in a stone courtyard opposite a Catholic primary school in Malindi. The property belonged to Ruth Kahindi, who had met Mr. Mackenzie at a nearby Baptist church and invited him to preach at her home.

Together they formed their own church, Good News International, using Ms. Kahindi's home as its base.

"It was a normal church at the beginning," recalled Ms. Kahindi's daughter Naomi, who remembers Mr. Mackenzie as a powerful speaker who initially stuck to the standard evangelical message of salvation through faith in Christ alone and the Bible as the ultimate spiritual authority.

After years of close partnership, Ms. Kahindi split with Mr. Mackenzie around 2008, the daughter said, after he grew increasingly apocalyptic in his preaching.

There were also quarrels over cash, Ms. Kahindi's daughter said, adding that Mr. Mackenzie was suspected of pocketing tithes.

In response, the daughter said, "he started accusing my mother of witchcraft."

Barred from using Ms Kahindi's home for preaching, Mr. Mackenzie, no longer a pauper, built himself a big concrete prayer hall on a plot of land he had purchased in Furunzi on the outskirts of Malindi and declared this the new home of Good News International Church. Word spread of his warnings of the coming Battle of Armageddon.

Though bitterly estranged from Ms. Kahindi, he took with him one of her daughters, Mary, who had married one of Mr. Mackenzie's most fervent followers, Smart Mwakalama, a former hotel cleaner.

Mr. Mwakalama is now also under arrest. His wife, Mary, and their six children have all vanished and are feared to be among the dead buried in Shakahola.

Mr. Mackenzie said Mary's sister Naomi "is a demon" who has "ruined too many lives."

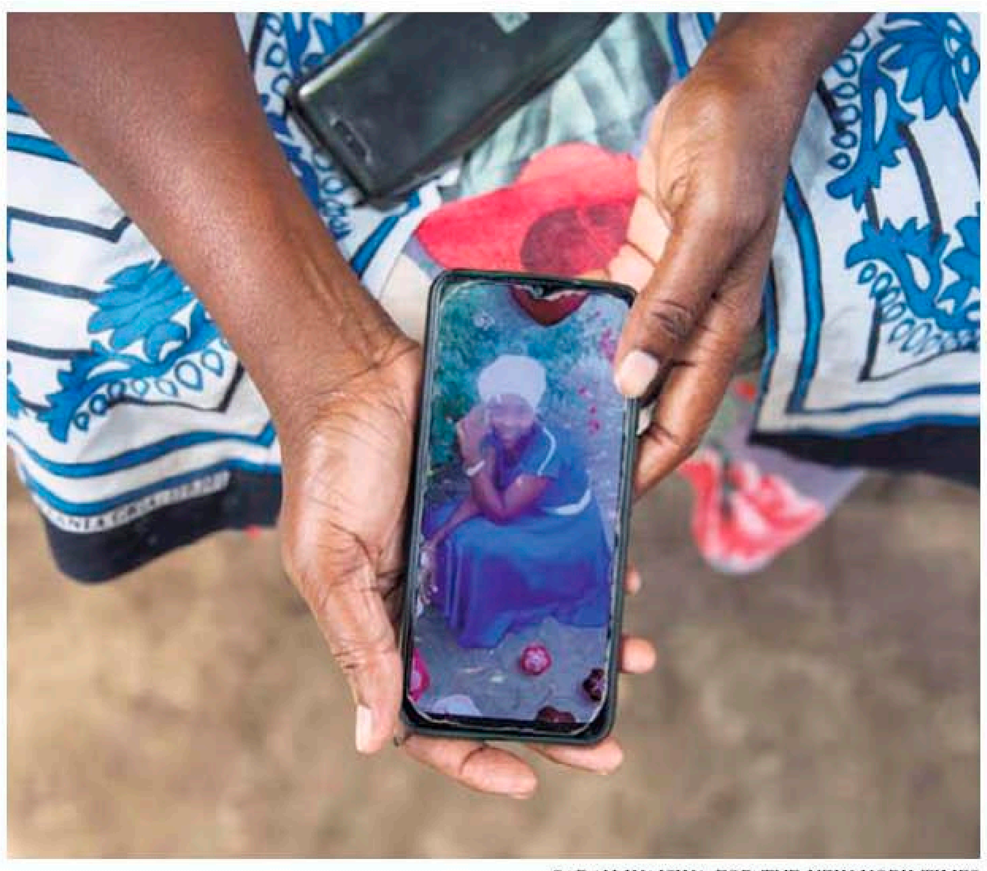
Simon Marks contributed reporting from Nairobi, Kenya.



YASUYOSHI CHIBA/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES



SIMON MAINA/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES



SARAH WAISWA FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Clockwise from top: Holes left after bodies were exhumed near the Good News International Church, an evangelical Christian church, in the Shakahola Forest in Kenya; Priscilla Riziki with a photo of her oldest daughter, Lorine, a church member who was last seen in January; the church's leader, Paul Nthenge Mackenzie, appearing in court in Mombasa.



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Among those caught in the ruins is Priscilla Riziki, an impoverished villager who introduced her oldest daughter, Lorine, to Mr. Mackenzie's preaching a decade ago. Wracked by guilt and grief, she visits the Malindi morgue each day to search for her daughter and three grandchildren, all of whom moved to Mr. Mackenzie's retreat in 2021.

"My only hope now is to just see my daughter — either dead or alive," Ms. Riziki said.

A mob of angry residents, some of them disconsolate relatives of missing cult members, ransacked Mr. Mackenzie's former church, last week, tearing down its pink front gate and smashing the surrounding wall.

"People are very angry and blame Mackenzie, but I blame the government," Damaris Muteti, a member of a rival evangelical church and itinerant preacher, said, surveying the wreckage.

"Mackenzie is a good man, but the Devil used him," she said. "Something went wrong."

Selling Land He Didn't Own

A peanut seller named Titus Katana, who joined the Good News church in 2015 and rose to become deputy pastor, said he initially had great admiration for Mr. Mackenzie and his preaching. "He changed because of his false prophecies" about the end of the world, Mr. Katana said. "His main interest became making money, not preaching to the world."

By 2017, he recalled, Mr. Mackenzie had started telling worshipers not to see doctors or send their children to school. He set up his own unregistered, fee-paying school at his church. He also claimed divine healing powers, for which he also charged.

"He told me he had received a revelation from God" about education and medicine being sinful, Mr. Katana recalled. "Everything bad started with this."

Mr. Mackenzie had by this time expanded his reach far beyond the Kenyan coast thanks to his establishment of Times TV, a gospel channel that beamed his increasingly fiery sermons over the internet and across Africa. Among those missing in Shakahola are a Nigerian citizen and a Kenyan flight attendant.

Elizabeth Syombua, the sister of the man now starving in the wilderness, said she and her brother had been entranced by Mr. Mackenzie's television broadcasts. "You get addicted to what he says," she said, recalling how she used to rush home from work at a Mombasa sewing factory so that she could join her brother to watch.

"He is like an evil spirit with this strange power to lure people into his trap," she said.

Mr. Mackenzie's growing popularity, however, also attracted the attention of the authorities.

He was arrested in October 2017 on four charges, including radicalization and promoting extremist beliefs, crimes that had previously been leveled mostly at Muslims responsible for a number of terrorist attacks in Kenya. Mr. Mackenzie pleaded not guilty and was acquitted.

He was detained again in 2019, and released on bail. He escalated his confrontation with the government, denouncing its introduction of national identification numbers for citizens as "the mark of the beast" — and yet another sign of approaching apocalypse.

Threatened with further prosecution, Mr. Mackenzie stunned his followers in 2019 by announcing that he was closing down the church, selling off its property and retreating to Shakahola Forest. He invited followers to join him and purchase small plots on what he said would be a new Holy Land.

Children Would Be the First to Perish

Mr. Katana, his former deputy preacher, said he had bought an acre for 3,000 Kenyan shillings, then worth around $30 — a low price but still a boon for Mr. Mackenzie, who did not legally own the land he was selling.

The arrival of the Covid pandemic in Kenya in 2020 increased the appeal of Mr. Mackenzie's land offer and, for many, vindicated his longstanding message that the world was coming to an end.

Increasingly obsessed with the coming apocalypse, Mr. Mackenzie, according to Mr. Katana, issued "new instructions" in January to the hundreds of people who had moved to Shakahola, which the televangelist divided into districts with biblical names like Jericho and Jerusalem.

Mr. Mackenzie, casting himself as a Christ-like figure, lived in a section he called Galilee — after the area of Palestine where Jesus lived most of his life.

The instructions, Mr. Katana said, featured a methodical plan for mass suicide through starvation. The first to perish were to be children, who were "to fast in the sun so they would die faster," Mr. Katana said, recalling the pastor's words. In March and April, it would be the turn of women, followed by men.

Mr. Mackenzie, according to Mr. Katana, said that he would stay alive to help lead his followers to "meet Jesus" through starvation but that once this work was done, he, too, would starve himself to death ahead of what he said was the imminent end of the world.

In a video post online in March, Mr. Mackenzie said that he had "heard the voice of Christ telling me that 'the work I gave you to preach End Time messages for nine years has come to an end.'"

Mr. Katana said he had by this time broken with Mr. Mackenzie and wasn't in Shakahola when the suicide program started, but heard about it from believers who were. He went to the police to report that "kids are dying" in the forest.

"They never took any action until it was too late," he said.

In April, Mr. Muendo, the former hawker who moved to Shakahola in 2021 with his family, telephoned his sister in Mombasa and told her that "we are starting a fast so that we can go to see Christ in Golgotha," a reference to the site of Jesus's crucifixion in the Bible.

"I told him: 'I'm praying for you but we need you, so don't crucify yourself,'" the sister, Ms. Syombua, said.

Mr. Muendo, according to his sister, asked her to understand that he had no choice but "to go through to the end."

The sister said, "He was happy, because he thought he would be dying soon for Jesus."

As for Mr. Mackenzie, she added, "he is a murderer."



YASUYOSHI CHIBA/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

While starvation was said to cause many deaths, some bodies bore signs of asphyxiation, strangulation or bludgeoning.

Long a Scourge in India, Witch Hunting Lives On

Despite Laws, Women Pay a Brutal Price

By SUHASINI RAJ

TIRULDIH, India — They ushered the young woman into their home and closed the door behind her. Then the beating began.

"You are a witch," shouted one of the attackers, as she, her parents and her uncle rained punches, kicks and slaps on the 26-year-old woman's stomach, chest and face.

When the pummeling finally ended, after nearly two hours, the young woman was pulled outside by her hair, dragged through her village and dumped, unconscious, next to a temple, her clothing barely clinging to her battered body.

The attack, in the eastern Indian state of Jharkhand in 2021, was evidence that India is still struggling to eradicate the age-old scourge of witch hunting, despite a raft of laws and other initiatives.

For centuries, the branding of witches was driven largely by superstition. A crop would fail, a well would run dry or a family member would fall ill, and villagers would find someone — almost always a woman — to blame for a misfortune whose cause they did not understand.

Superstition hasn't gone away. But witchcraft accusations are now often simply a tool to oppress women, victims' advocates say. The motives can be to grab land, to ostracize a woman to settle a score, or to justify violence.

In the Jharkhand case, the young woman who was attacked, Durga Mahato, said the trouble started when she refused the sexual advances of a prominent man in the village. He, his brother, his wife and their daughter then declared Ms. Mahato a witch before luring her to their home and attacking her.

All four attackers have been charged under anti-witch-hunt laws; the man and his brother are on bail after spending a few months in jail.

For Ms. Mahato, the consequences of being labeled a witch did not end with the savage beating. She was barred from bathing in the village pond and drawing water from the community tap. A wooden fence was built around her house to prevent her from wandering into the village. Villagers blame her for problems like the death of a cow. Only some people talk to her now. She still has pain in her waist and back.

"What wrong have I done, that God gave me such a huge punishment?" she said one recent evening, seated on a bright yellow charpoy, a woven bed, outside her brick house. "Call me a witch as much as you want to," she added, breaking into tears.

Witch hunting still exists in varying measures across nearly a dozen states, mostly in Indigenous tribal areas in central and eastern India, experts say. Many states have passed laws against the practice. Some, like Assam, have made penalties more stringent, with provisions of life imprisonment. Others, like Odisha, have supplemented legal efforts by setting up memorials to victims at police stations.

Women branded witches have had their nails pulled out, been forced to eat feces, been paraded naked or been beaten black and blue. They have been burned or lynched. From 2010 to 2021, more than 1,500 people were killed in India after accusations of witchcraft, according to the National Crime Records Bureau.

Witch hunts are particularly common in Jharkhand, a mineral-rich yet poverty-riddled state where Indigenous tribes make up about a quarter of the population. The assault on Ms. Mahato was one of 854 witchcraft-related cases recorded in the state in 2021, 32 of which resulted in deaths.

Jharkhand has taken a hands-on approach in trying to tackle the practice. A state-run program called Project Garima has deployed about 25 "witch-hunting prevention campaign teams," which conduct street plays to raise awareness. Village-level protection committees aid survivors of violence. Centers have been set up to provide legal aid and short-stay arrangements for victims. Workers staffing a help desk call survivors directly to get an update on their psychological and economic status.

But law enforcement can be weak. Madhu Mehra, the founder of a legal resource group for women, said that her organization, in a study on witch hunting across three states, including Jharkhand, found that the police usually intervened only in cases of murder or attempted murder. That, and entrenched beliefs, have allowed the practice to persist, activists say.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY SAMYUKTA LAKSHMI FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES



Durga Mahato at a temple in Jharkhand, a state where she was accused of being a witch and beaten unconscious. Chhutni Mahato, left, once a target herself, is trying to banish witch hunting.

While state officials had set 2023 as the target year for eradicating witch hunting, officials said they were now pushing back the goal by at least three years.

In Ms. Mahato's case, the most helpful assistance came not from the government, but from another victim, Chhutni Mahato, who has been recognized by India for trying to eliminate witch hunting.

Durga Mahato's aunt had heard about the work of Chhutni Mahato (the two women are not related). Durga found refuge for weeks in Chhutni's home after spending two weeks in the hospital.

Chhutni Mahato's broken teeth are testimony to the torture she once bore at the hands of villagers who blamed her for a girl's illness. She ran away and years later began working with a nongovernmental organization.

She often barges into police stations demanding action on witch-hunt cases and scolds village heads over the phone. Victims now reach her via word of mouth. She has helped more than 150 women in the state.



THE NEW YORK TIMES

One of them is Dukhu Majhi, who lives in a picturesque village a couple of hundred miles from Durga Mahato's.

In Ms. Majhi's case, suspicion fell on her simply because she did not conform to neighbors' expectations. Villagers wondered how a "normal woman" could live by herself with her young children, deep in the forest, while her husband was away for work.

Then they labeled her a witch.

"If someone's stomach aches, I am blamed. If a headache happens, I am blamed. They would stand outside my house and shout, 'She is the witch causing us grief,'" Ms. Majhi said. "I would retort: Do I become a witch just because you are saying so?"

Last July, villagers chased her with axes and sticks. She ran home; they banged on the door and tried to break it down.

"I clung hard to my children. We were all shaking," Ms. Majhi said.

She and her husband went to the police to complain. Pintu Mahato, a local police official, tried to play down the case.

Mr. Mahato said that the case had been settled by village elders and that everyone was living happily together again.

He had clearly not been following up on the case.

Ms. Majhi had in fact moved out of her house soon after the attack. She and her family took refuge with Chhutni Mahato for a few days before finding a room near a larger city. Her husband found a new job.

They visit their house in the middle of the forest once in a while, to check on their meager belongings and their kitchen garden, and to give their children a chance to sprawl out on the charpoy beds.



Israel and Islamic Jihad Agree to Pause Fighting

Cease-Fire Ends 5 Days of Deadly Violence



SAID KHATIB/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

Rockets being fired from the Gaza Strip toward Israel on Saturday, before both sides were said to have agreed to a cease-fire without conditions.

By ISABEL KERSHNER

JERUSALEM — Israel and the militant group Palestinian Islamic Jihad agreed to a cease-fire on Saturday, according to Egyptian negotiators, ending five days of violence in which 35 people were killed.

Egyptian officials said representatives from Israel and Islamic Jihad, an Islamist group based in Gaza, had agreed to suspend fighting. The sides confirmed that a cease-fire had been reached, but exchanges of fire continued for at least 30 minutes after the deal was to go into effect at 10 p.m. local time.

According to local Arabic news outlets, Israel and Islamic Jihad mutually agreed to stop firing on civilians and destroying homes. But a Western diplomat, with knowledge of the talks, said the cease-fire came without conditions — as Israel had demanded — and was based on the principle of calm being answered with calm.

The five days of fighting, the longest stretch of cross-border violence between Israel and the group in recent years, remained relatively contained. Islamic Jihad, a small militant group backed by Iran, failed to draw in Hamas — the more powerful Islamic militant organization that controls Gaza — or any other major faction. The Islamic Jihad fighters, alone on the battlefield, suffered crushing blows.

Some experts attributed the stamina of Islamic Jihad — which Israel, the United States and many other Western countries classify as a terrorist organization — to the fact that, unlike Hamas, the group does not bear any responsibility for Gaza's largely impoverished population of more than two million people. Instead, it is focused only on its long-term goal of replacing Israel with an Islamic state.

"It exists just for one purpose: to fight and 'liberate' the country," Zakaria al-Qaq, a Palestinian expert in national security based in East Jerusalem, said of Islamic Jihad.

"They have no ministerial positions or parliamentary seats to keep and no privileges other than to die" he said, adding that the group had gained the respect of many Palestinians, who sympathize with the Gazans living under a strict land, air and sea blockade imposed by Israel and Egypt.

Israel also maintained that Iran, Islamic Jihad's patron, had been setting the agenda while the group's leaders live in exile. Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, the chief spokesman for the Israeli military, said this past week that the group's leaders were "living in hotels in Beirut and Damascus and driving Mercedes" while on the Iranian payroll, were "OK with Gaza bleeding."

Previous rounds of fighting between Israel and Islamic Jihad — in April, in August last year and in November 2019 — were all over in about 50 hours or less.

But in a television interview in October, Ziyad al-Nakhalah, the leader of Palestinian Islamic Jihad in exile, said the group had made a "strategic mistake" two months earlier in agreeing to a cease-fire after 50 hours, under local and regional pressure. He said they could have continued fighting and achieved "concrete results on the ground."

This time, Israel argued that it was ready for a cease-fire with no preconditions, but it also said that it was ready to continue with its offensive. For its part, Islamic Jihad cited "great loyal popular support" on Saturday and said that "the resistance has prepared itself for months of confrontation."

Two significant events on the calendar in the coming week had the potential to draw broader Arab support for the group's cause.

On Monday, Palestinians and their supporters will mark the 75th anniversary of the so-called Nakba, or "catastrophe" in which hundreds of thousands of Palestinian refugees fled or were expelled from their homes in the war surrounding Israel's creation in 1948. Then, later this coming week, tens of thousands of Israeli nationalists are expected to march through the Muslim Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City in an annual parade commemorating Israel's capture of East Jerusalem in the 1967 war.

After firing rockets toward Jerusalem on Friday, Dawoud Shehab, a spokesman for Islamic Jihad, told a local Arabic news outlet, "The battle is approaching the time of the flag march — that is what spurs us on to continue."

The warring sides had traded fire on Saturday before the agreement took hold. The Israeli military said it had struck mortar-shell and rocket-launching sites belonging to Islamic Jihad as well as what it described as two of the group's command centers located in residential homes. And sirens continuously sounded in southern and central Israel, warning of barrages of incoming projectiles including in the hour before the cease-fire was expected to come into effect.

Over the past five days, Islamic Jihad fired more than 1,200 rockets and mortar rounds toward Israel, and Israel struck more than 370 targets affiliated with the group in Gaza, according to data released by the military. The Israeli authorities also said that the group had fired dozens of mortar shells toward areas near the border crossings between Israel and Gaza, preventing their opening for the passage of most people and goods.

The Palestinian Ministry of Health has reported at least 33 people killed in Gaza, many of them civilians, since the campaign began and more than 100 injured. In Israel, an older woman was killed on Thursday by a rocket launched from Gaza that struck an apartment block in central Israel. Israel's ambulance service reported eight people injured by shrapnel and debris, including three it said were wounded by a rocket fired into southern Israel on Saturday, two of them severely. Two of the three were Palestinian workers from Gaza. One of the workers from Gaza subsequently died in the hospital.

Israeli officials said the decision to launch the offensive against leaders of Islamic Jihad was made on May 2, the day that the group fired more than 100 rockets and mortar shells at southern Israel after the death in Israeli custody of a Palestinian hunger striker, Khader Adnan, who was protesting his detention. Mr. Adnan was an Islamic Jihad leader from the occupied West Bank. That night, Israel carried out some initial airstrikes in Gaza that killed one man.

Israeli officials said the campaign that began on Tuesday was aimed at weakening Islamic Jihad, an objective they achieved in the first seconds of the campaign, and restoring stability to the area. The opening strikes killed three of Islamic Jihad's top commanders and 10 civilians, including children, according to Palestinian health officials. Three more of the group's key commanders were killed in subsequent strikes this past week.

The Israeli military's chief of staff, Lt. Gen. Herzi Halevi, said on Saturday that Islamic Jihad's continued fire had enabled Israel "to continue to make further achievements."

The United States has backed Israel's right to defend itself against indiscriminate rocket fire by Islamic Jihad, while also stressing the urgency of reaching a cease-fire agreement.

Islamic Jihad at first presented several conditions for a cease-fire, including an Israeli commitment to halt assassinations; the release of Mr. Adnan's body for burial; and the cancellation of the Jerusalem flag parade — conditions that Israel refused.

Iyad Abuheweila contributed reporting from Gaza City, and Carol Sutherland from Moshav Ben Ami, Israel.

Modi's Party Loses a State Election in the South, Giving Hope to India's Opposition

By MUJIB MASHAL and HARI KUMAR

NEW DELHI — Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ruling party lost its only state government in India's relatively prosperous south, results from elections in Karnataka showed on Saturday, in a boost to the otherwise struggling opposition ahead of general elections next year.

The Indian National Congress, which governed India for much of its time since independence before being sidelined by the rise of Mr. Modi and his Bharatiya Janata Party, was winning a majority of the seats in the local assembly elections in Karnataka.

Home to over 65 million people and India's cash-rich tech hub, Karnataka is the only southern state where Mr. Modi's Hindu nationalist party has managed to lead a government, its ideological push finding less acceptance there than in Mr. Modi's stronghold of northern India.

With a majority of the votes counted, the Congress party was projected to win at least 135 of the assembly's 224 seats, which would position it to easily form the government.

In the final stretches of the campaign for the state, which saw a strong voter turnout of about 73 percent, Mr. Modi personally thrust himself into the race. He held about 20 rallies there, including several in which supporters showered him with flower petals as he drove past in an open car.

Making the election about the popular Mr. Modi was a last-ditch effort, after the party's usual efforts to polarize the electorate along religious lines — such as with a ban on Muslim girls' wearing head coverings as part of their school uniforms — did not seem to be deflecting voter attention from allegations of local corruption among B.J.P. members.

"We have not been able to make the mark in spite of a lot of effort put in by everybody, right from our prime minister," said Basavaraj Bommai, the B.J.P. chief minister of the state, conceding defeat on Saturday.

While the win in Karnataka could be a shot in the arm for the national opposition, which has been trying to rebound after thrashings by Mr. Modi's party in the 2019 and 2014 national elections, analysts warned that Congress would still face a formidable opponent in Mr. Modi when he seeks a third term early next year.

Mr. Modi's popularity remains strong, with many voters in Karnataka — who voted against his local leaders because of rising prices, corruption and polarizing politics — still expressing fondness for him personally.



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National

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The New York Times

Tiffany Walls and son, Jasper, 6, at Fort Moore, below. Her husband, Pfc. Justin Walls, has been away from the family for months in basic training.







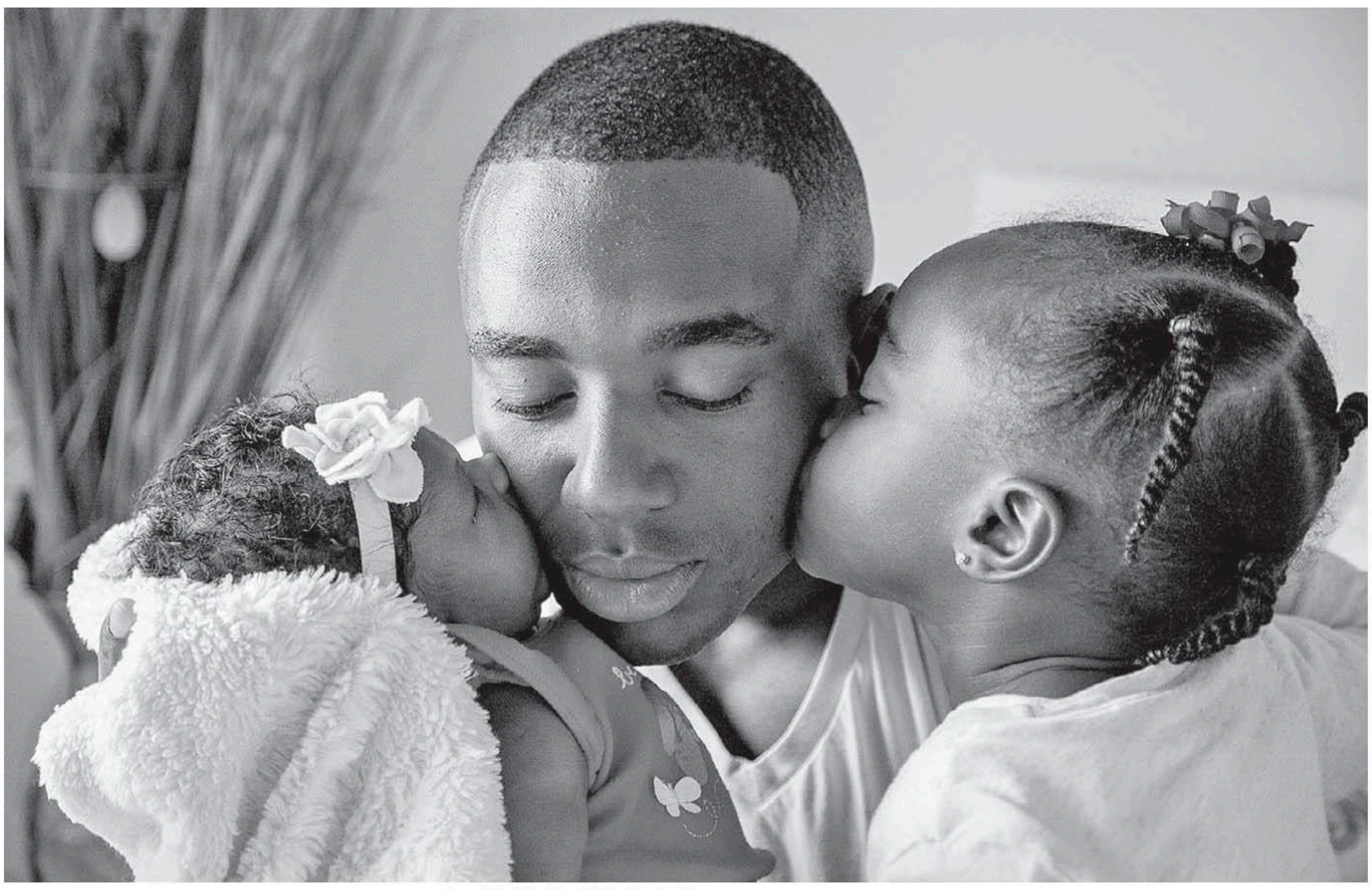
For the first time, a military base was named in honor of a spouse, recognizing Harold and Julia Moore and the full experience of military families.

Dana Abella and her husband, John, before an Army ball in 2017. They have moved 11 times and gone through four deployments. They have three children.





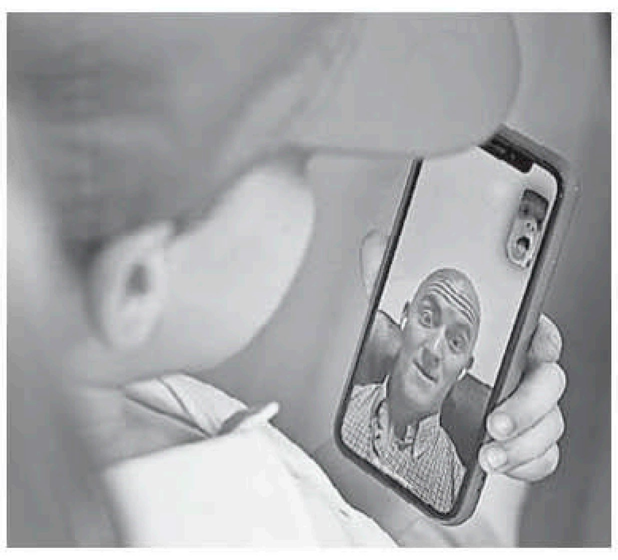
Britnee Wheeler, above, was pregnant with her fifth child. Her husband, Maj. Bernard Wheeler, at right in 2018, attends school at an Air Force base in Alabama.





Alexandria Lyles has experienced five deployments and six moves. Her younger sister, Juliana, has seen four deployments and four moves.





Caitlin Sampson, left with son Henry, living at Fort Moore with her family. Son Wyatt, above, FaceTiming with his father, Capt. Stephen Sampson, who was on the second month of a six-month deployment to Colombia.

Renaming a Military Base Honors the Family Unit

Photographs and Article by ARIN YOON

FORT MOORE, Ga. — Lt. Gen. Harold G. Moore commanded troops in the first major battle of the Vietnam War, a role depicted in a book and a movie. His wife, Julia, was a champion for military spouses and changed the way next of kin are notified when a service member is killed.

In their honor, Fort Benning in Georgia officially became Fort Moore on Thursday as the Defense Department removes Confederate names and symbols from military property. Fort Moore is the only base named for a married couple.

"Together, Hal and Julie Moore embody the very best of our military and the very best of our nation," Maj. Gen. Curtis Buzzard, Fort Moore's commander, said at a ceremony marking the change, using General Moore's nickname.

"By honoring them, Fort Moore recognizes the sacrifices of all veterans, especially highlighting those from Vietnam," he added. "It also reinforces the important role Army spouses and families play in the success of our military."

The protests over the police killing of George Floyd in 2020 led to broader conversations about racism, and calls to rename sites that honored Confederate officers who fought to preserve slavery and white supremacy. A committee created by Congress to recommend new names for nine U.S. bases selected Fort Moore for Fort Benning, which had been named for a pro-slavery general over 50 years after the end of the Civil War.

In his remarks, General Buzzard reflected on General Moore's contribution to the Army's integration. "As the commanding general of Fort Ord, California, during a time of high racial tension, Hal instituted an equal-opportunity policy banning discrimination," he said.

After graduating from West Point, General Moore served in the military for more than 30 years, with assignments around the world. But he is perhaps best remembered for his leadership as a lieutenant colonel at the beginning of the Vietnam War.

In November 1965, the military leader took his outnumbered troops into the valley of Ia Drang, and a bloody fight ensued. The North Vietnamese troops retreated in what was considered a tactical victory for the United States. But casualties were heavy. Within 72 hours, 79 U.S. soldiers were killed, and 121 were wounded.

"In battle our world shrank to the man on our left and the man on our right and the enemy all around," General Moore recalled in his memoir, "We Were Soldiers Once . . . and Young." The battle and his actions were later depicted in a movie starring Mel Gibson.

On the home front, military families stationed at Fort Benning began receiving Western Union telegrams bearing news of the losses of these young husbands, fathers and sons. Unaccustomed to notifying so many families at once, the Army hired taxi drivers to deliver the telegrams.

Julie Moore saw that this practice lacked compassion and humanity. "It was a very cruel way to tell a woman that her world had come to an end," she wrote in a letter.

She and other spouses accompanied the taxi drivers and consoled the wives upon notification. Because of her work, the Defense Department started requiring that an officer and a chaplain are present when a family is notified.

Her dedication to military families led to the development of Army Community Services, which offers educational programs and resources to help soldiers and their families, especially through deployments and frequent moves.

Julie and Hal Moore, who had five children, moved 28 times in 32 years. Active-duty military personnel move once every two to three years on average, according to the Defense Department, contributing to a high unemployment rate for military spouses. During deployments, training and other duty assignments, military spouses, most of whom are women, often raise children alone.

When soldiers return home, they go through a reintegration process, and families adjust as well. Children sometimes meet or get to know a parent for the first time.

Maj. Bernard Wheeler recalled leaving home for a nine-month deployment just after the birth of his daughter. When he returned, he said, "Brooklyn wouldn't let me pick her up." His wife, Britnee Wheeler, added: "When he came home, she didn't want anything to do with him. She was like, 'Why are you touching my mama?' It was the craziest experience."

At the ceremony, the Moores' youngest son, Dave, a West Point graduate and retired Army colonel, spoke about the values his parents represented as a military family. "We believe the redesignation of Fort Benning is unique in that, by Hal and Julie Moore's example, the Army continues to recognize Army families as essential to Army readiness and mission accomplishment," he said.

As the ceremony ended, Rebecca Gell Workentine began to exit but paused to look back at the soldiers in the stands. She waved and a sea of hands waved back.

In 1965, she had received one of the dreaded telegrams, saying that her husband, Jack Gell, had been killed in action in Ia Drang.



Greg Moore looking at family photo albums in Auburn, Ga. Mel Gibson played his father, Harold, in the movie "We Were Soldiers."

Abortion Access Wins Elections, but Advocates Can't Agree on a Strategy

THE MORNING

DAVID LEONHARDT and LYNA BENTAHAR

Since the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, abortion access has fared very well when it has appeared on the ballot.

Voters in California, Michigan and Vermont approved abortion-rights amendments to their state constitutions last year. In Kansas and Kentucky — both red states — voters rejected measures that could have led to bans. In Wisconsin this year, the candidate favoring abortion access easily won a judicial election focused on the issue.

The 2024 elections offer supporters of abortion rights an opportunity to continue their winning streak. There are 10 states that both significantly restrict abortion (or may soon) and allow citizen-sponsored ballot initiatives, including Florida, Ohio and Arizona. Placing measures on the ballots there offers progressives a possible double victory — to expand access and energize 2024 turnout among Democratic voters.

But it remains unclear how many of these states will hold referendums.

Advocates have not yet collected the signatures they need in most states, nor have they started a national fund-raising campaign for the effort. At this point, some observers say they would be surprised if even five of the 10 states held initiatives next year.

The situation has the potential to be a major missed opportunity for the abortion-rights movement. One progressive activist told us it would be "political malpractice."

What explains the apparent lack of urgency? In interviews, some activists said that placing a measure on a ballot took time and money, and that they wanted to make sure the initiatives used language that would survive legal challenges. "You don't get two bites at this apple," Sarah Standiford of Planned Parenthood Action Fund said.

Other advocates pointed to internal disagreements and disorganization in the movement that have delayed action. The movement has not been able to agree on a national strategy, including whether ballot initiatives should use the word "women" and how far into pregnancy abortion should remain legal.

"There is just not the command and control that other movements have had," another progressive activist said. In the push for same-sex marriage, by contrast, a few major donors and activists played a coordinating role and insisted on urgency.

(Related: "Many reproductive-rights advocates still believe that Planned Parenthood's agenda is too narrow and too cautious," Eyal Press writes in The New Yorker.)

In the rest of today's newsletter, we look more closely at the 10 states.

In The Morning, David Leonhardt and Times journalists guide you through what's happening — and why it matters. Get the newsletter at **nytimes.com/themorning**.



MADDIE MCGARVEY FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

An Ohio woman signing a petition to put a constitutional amendment protecting abortion rights on the ballot in November.

Share of U.S. adults who say abortion should be ...

Legal in all cases	27%
Legal in most cases	35
Illegal in most cases	27
Illegal in all cases	9

Source: Pew Research Center survey of U.S. adults conducted between March 27 and April 3, 2023. | Note: "No answer" responses are not shown. ASHLEY WU/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Furthest Along

Initiatives seem most likely to happen soon in two states.

In **Ohio**, a coalition of abortion rights groups is collecting signatures to place an initiative on the ballot this year that would protect access through roughly the first 24 weeks of pregnancy. For now, most abortions remain legal in Ohio, thanks to a court ruling blocking a ban.

In **South Dakota**, organizers are optimistic that they can collect the signatures needed for an initiative next year. It is a compromise measure that would seek to reinstate the minimum access required by the Roe v. Wade decision. All abortions would be legal in the first trimester (roughly 12 weeks), and some would be in the second trimester.

Early Efforts

In several other states, efforts have begun, but they're less advanced.

In **Missouri**, advocates have not yet settled on one approach. Some petitions — an early step to putting an initiative on the ballot — would protect most abortion access until 24 weeks of pregnancy. Others would be narrower and let the state enact parental consent laws.

In **Florida**, where Gov. Ron DeSantis recently signed a near-total ban, advocates are hoping to place an initiative on the ballot that would allow most abortions until 24 weeks. But the state's pro-marijuana movement helps highlight the slowness of the effort: Organizers of a 2024 ballot initiative to legalize marijuana have already raised $30 million and collected nearly all the required signatures — while organizers of an abortion initiative are just getting started.

Arizona has tough rules for ballot initiatives, requiring hundreds of thousands of signatures on a petition. "That said, we think this fight is more than worth it," said Ezra Levin, a founder of Indivisible, a progressive group that's part of the effort. Levin explained that an initiative could both protect abortion access and generate enough Democratic turnout to help President Biden win an important swing state.

There appears to be less activity in several other states: **Arkansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota** or **Oklahoma**. (In Montana, as in Ohio, court rulings have so far prevented bans from taking effect.)

In Oklahoma, activists submitted language for a petition last year, but withdrew it a few months later, saying they needed more preparation.

Counterattacks

Abortion opponents aren't sitting still. In several states, they are trying to reduce the chances an initiative can pass, as our colleagues Kate Zernike and Michael Wines have explained.

In both Missouri and Ohio, Republican officials want to change the law so any ballot initiative will need 60 percent of the vote to pass. (Florida has had such a law for almost two decades.) Missouri officials are also pushing for ballot language that would summarize an initiative as allowing "dangerous, unregulated and unrestricted" abortions.

"There's one reason for all of this," said Mallory Schwarz, the executive director of Pro-Choice Missouri, referring to the opponents. "They know abortion access is popular."

The bottom line: Polls show that most residents of red and purple states support some abortion restrictions — but most also support some abortion access. Since the Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade, opinion has shifted left.

Even in many conservative states, ballot initiatives to expand abortion rights would have a good chance of receiving 50 percent of the vote. And 60 percent is not out of the question.

Nonetheless, some states may not hold initiatives anytime soon.

North Carolina Governor Vetoes 12-Week Abortion Ban

By KATE KELLY

The governor of North Carolina, Roy Cooper, vetoed a ban on abortion that was passed by the state's Republican-led legislature. The bill prohibited abortion past 12 weeks, with some exceptions for rape, incest or to preserve the life and health of the mother.

The veto by Mr. Cooper, a Democrat, sets him up for a showdown with the legislature, which now has a slim Republican supermajority. That means it has the power to override his veto and enact the ban, if the party can muster enough votes.

Hundreds of people gathered Saturday morning in Raleigh for Mr. Cooper's "veto rally" to watch him sign as a way to call attention to his fight with Republicans.

"Standing in the way of progress right now is this Republican supermajority legislature that only took 48 hours to turn the clock back 50 years," Mr. Cooper said. The crowd around him chanted, "Veto! Veto!"

Why It Matters: North Carolina has been a destination for women seeking abortions.

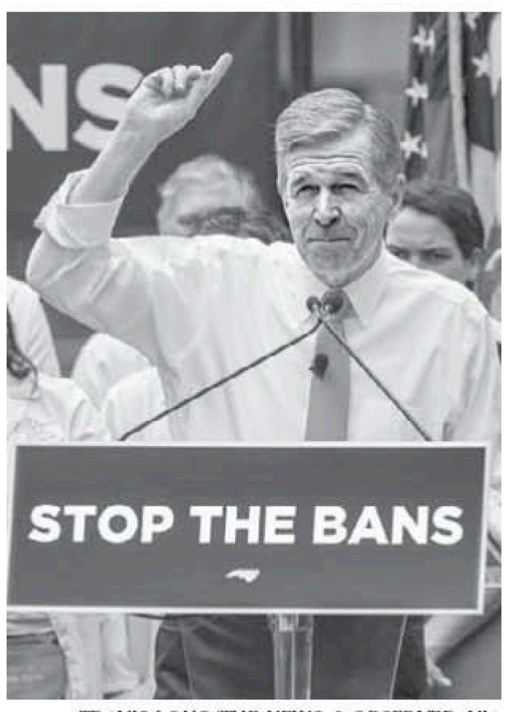
Abortion is currently legal in North Carolina up to 20 weeks. A 12-week ban would dramatically cut abortion access.

The ban would stand to have an impact well outside of the state. North Carolina has become a haven for women across the South who are seeking abortions and whose home states have banned the procedure. North Carolina had one of the biggest upticks in out-of-state abortions since the U.S. Supreme Court eliminated the constitutional right to abortion last year.

The bill is a consequential test of power of the Republican legislature's new supermajority, achieved when a Democratic House member, Tricia Cotham, joined the Republican Party last month. A few weeks later, she voted in favor of the abortion ban in an apparent change of heart on the issue.

Background: Republicans pitch the bill as a compromise, but abortion rights supporters see it as a threat.

The 12-week ban is not as restrictive as other bans enacted in conservative states since the overturning of Roe v. Wade. Many states have banned most abortions at any stage of pregnancy or after six weeks, before most women even know they are pregnant.



TRAVIS LONG/THE NEWS & OBSERVER, VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gov. Roy Cooper of North Carolina on Saturday.

The North Carolina ban that Mr. Cooper vetoed allows a larger window, and broader exceptions. Most abortions take place within the first trimester, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Republicans in North Carolina have pitched the 12-week ban as a compromise.

Senator Phil Berger, a Republican, said Saturday that the bill was "a mainstream approach to limiting elective abortions."

But those who support abortion rights say the bill would be disastrous for women's health because of other barriers it creates, like longer waiting periods, more in-person doctor visits and restrictions on who can provide abortions.

What's Next: An override vote is expected soon.

Republicans in the House and Senate are expected to hold votes to override the governor's veto in the coming days.

Mr. Berger, the Republican Senator, and Tim Moore, the House Speaker, both promised a swift override of Mr. Cooper's veto.

That override would most likely require the vote of every elected Republican, which is not assured.

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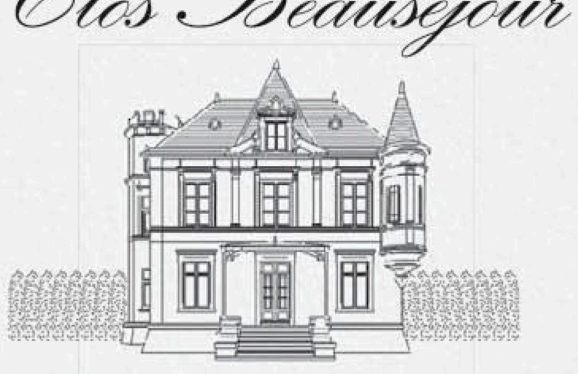
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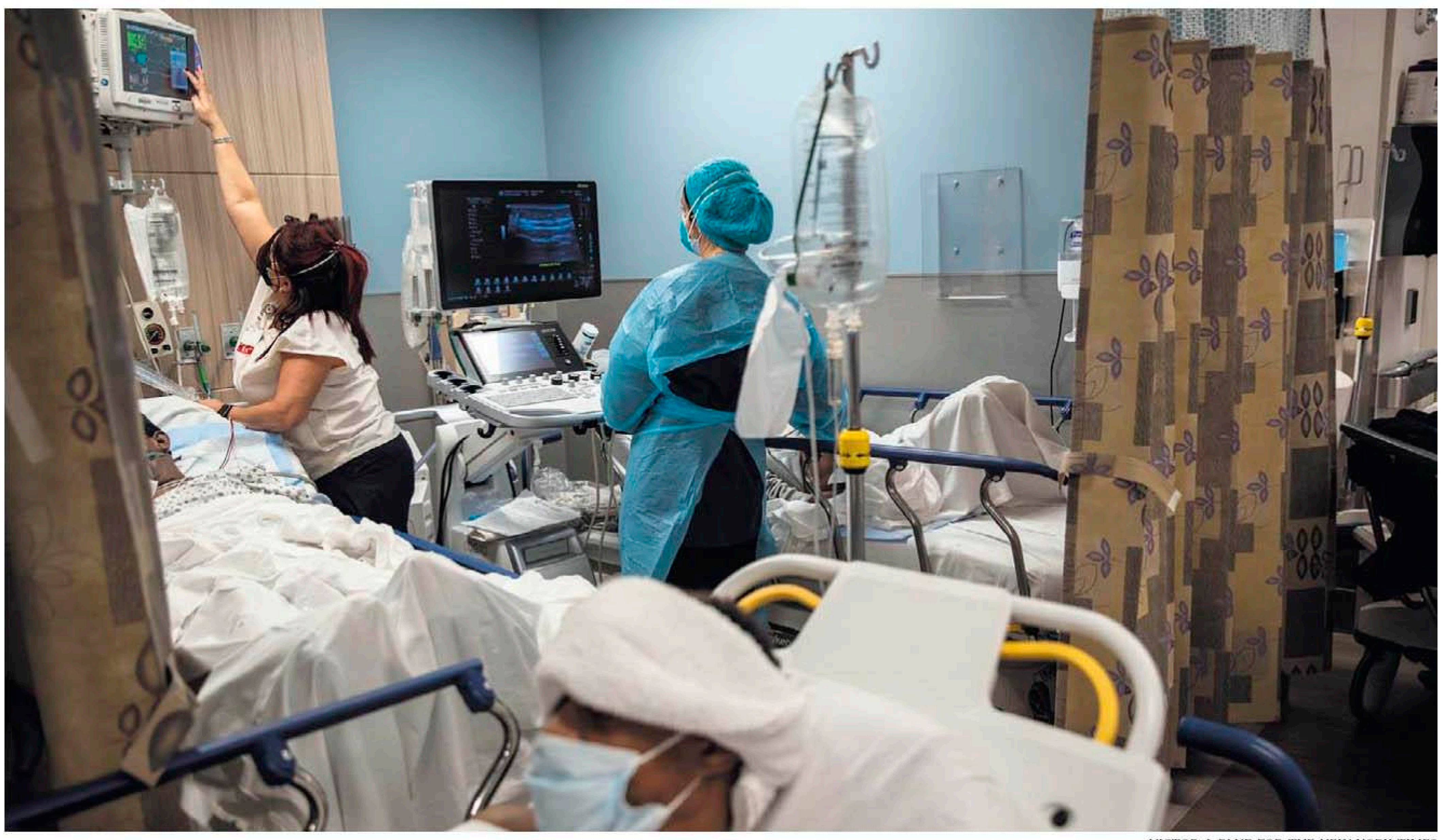
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Lessons From This Pandemic to Be Ready for the Next

By SHERYL GAY STOLBERG and NOAH WEILAND



VICTOR J. BLUE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Treating patients with Covid-19 at the Brooklyn Hospital Center in January 2022, when the Omicron variant wave was in full force.

A lot went wrong during the coronavirus pandemic as the virus tore through a polarized nation and public health leaders, policymakers and elected officials struggled to respond.

Chronic underinvestment in public health at the federal, state and local levels only made things worse. All told, more than 1.1 million people have died of Covid-19 in the United States, and more than 1,000 are still dying each week.

More than three years after the Trump administration declared the virus a public health emergency, in January 2020, the government's pandemic response is now entering a new phase. On Thursday, the Biden administration allowed the emergency declaration to expire, offering a moment to take stock of how the nation responded to the worst public health crisis in a century.

Here are some lessons from the country's fight against the virus.

Get the messaging right.

Public health experts say that when managing an infectious-disease outbreak, communication is not part of the response. It *is* the response.

The coronavirus pandemic showed that confusing messaging can worsen the spread of disease and erode faith in public health institutions. But messaging during a pandemic is a tricky business. The science is often changing, sometimes day by day, and instructions from public health officials — to mask or not to mask? — must change as well, which can create confusion and a lack of trust.

The key, experts say, is for public health leaders to bring their audience along with them by explaining that the guidance they are giving today may change tomorrow — and then acknowledging that what they said yesterday might have been wrong.

"When you're in a daily conversation with the public, you can explain those mistakes, what you've learned from them," said Dr. Richard E. Besser, an acting director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention during the Obama administration. "You can own them."

Make it easy to share data.

The C.D.C. was hamstrung during the pandemic by antiquated data systems and inconsistent data sharing between the federal government, states and health providers. And unlike Britain and Israel, which have national health care systems, the United States has no mechanism for a free flow of data between public health agencies and private providers. Responding to a quickly mutating virus that poses different risks to different populations requires better and faster data, experts said.

"We were in the embarrassing position of having to call up the U.K. and Israel or South Africa to find out what was going on — how many people were getting infected with this new infection, what the variant was," said Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, who helped lead the pandemic response during both the Trump and Biden administrations. "How many people were getting vaccinated and what was the effect of those data? We literally had to wait months instead of getting it in real time."

Michael T. Osterholm, the director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota, cited school closures as an example where real-time data would have helped. Some coronavirus variants were more lethal to children than others, he said, adding that if officials had had access to timely data on the effects of the virus on children, they might have been able to tailor school closures to when students were most at risk.

"We need instantaneous data to know what's going on," said Dr. Osterholm, who advised President Biden's transition team. "And as conditions change, we have to change."

Consider school closures carefully.

School closures have been a particularly contentious topic, but many experts now agree that some schools were closed for too long and that abruptly removing millions of children from American classrooms has had harmful effects on their emotional and intellectual health.

Both Dr. Fauci and Dr. Ezekiel J. Emanuel, a professor of medical ethics and health policy at the University of Pennsylvania, said the pandemic had shown that officials should think carefully about school closures and keep them as limited as possible. Both said better indoor air circulation might be one way to safely keep schools open.

"One of the things we've learned is that we closed schools much longer than other countries, and we've had this terrible impact on educational attainment and we have seen the test scores go down," said Dr. Emanuel, who also advised Mr. Biden's transition team.

Dr. Fauci said that early in the pandemic, "at a point when the hospitals were literally a day or two from being overrun," closing public places like restaurants, bars and schools was important for keeping health care systems operating by slowing the spread of the virus.

"But once you put a damper on the acceleration," he said, "then you need to really examine how we keep the kids in school safely."

Stockpile vital supplies.

In the early months of the pandemic, frontline health workers faced dramatic supply shortages, forcing them to reuse face masks, wear ill-fitting personal protective gear or go without such equipment altogether.

The federal government has substantially expanded its reserve of pandemic supplies since, giving it a head start in responding to another devastating coronavirus wave or a different viral outbreak that would require similar resources.

Before the pandemic, government purchases for the Strategic National Stockpile were heavily weighted toward protecting against bioterror agents like anthrax. In March 2020, the stockpile had 13 million N95 masks. As of early this month, it had 352 million. In the same period, the number of ventilators grew to about 150,000 from 12,700.

Invest in vaccines early.

As a model for responding to future pandemics, experts point to Operation Warp Speed, the Trump administration's coronavirus vaccine development program. The initiative brought effective vaccines to Americans in record time — in part, Dr. Fauci said, because the federal government had spent years investing in basic scientific research.

Federal officials in the Warp Speed program made enormous bulk purchases of shots that were still in development. The federal government funded or supported clinical trials run by Moderna and Pfizer, the manufacturers of the two widely used coronavirus shots. And it lent expertise to the companies with clinical trial specialists, epidemiologists and budget experts.

Quickly set up large trials.

Early treatments for the virus such as hydroxychloroquine and convalescent plasma were authorized by the Food and Drug Administration without strong data from large randomized controlled trials — considered the gold standard of evidence used by regulators to clear drugs and vaccines.

Trials for treatments stalled because of a lack of funding or participants. Scientists, physicians and federal regulators relied on foreign data, such as a British study on dexamethasone, a steroid used to treat Covid-19.

"Britain set up large randomized trials with very loose entry criteria, thousands of patients," Dr. Emanuel said. "Within 30 to 60 days, we learned that steroids actually saved people who were hospitalized or very sick."

Dr. Walid F. Gellad, a drug safety expert at the University of Pittsburgh, pointed to a current trial being conducted by British researchers that he said would soon deliver results on the effectiveness of Paxlovid, Pfizer's antiviral drug for Covid-19 that is widely used in the United States.

"We didn't have the infrastructure to collect data we needed to make decisions," he said of the U.S. pandemic response.

But don't rely only on vaccines.

Vaccines proved to be the most effective bulwark against hospitalization and death from Covid-19. But attention to vaccination often overshadowed efforts to develop and deliver treatments, public health experts said. Antibody medications critical for immunocompromised Americans are no longer cleared for use by the F.D.A., and experts say more antiviral drugs are needed.

The Biden administration has focused heavily on deploying booster shots, which have had steadily fewer takers since an initial round was authorized in the fall of 2021. Other strategies meant to prevent the spread of the virus, such as improving indoor air quality, have received comparatively modest attention.

"The myopic focus on vaccines alone at the exclusion of other areas that are really low-hanging fruit for a much superior response — it's like saying you're going to build a house with one wall or without a roof," said Dr. Luciana Borio, a former acting chief scientist at the F.D.A. who advised Mr. Biden's transition team.

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Biden's Sluggish Start Worries Democrats, but Aides Insist All Is Well

By REID J. EPSTEIN and SHANE GOLDMACHER

More than two weeks after President Biden unveiled his re-election bid, his campaign manager has yet to start the job, his seven co-chairs have not had a group discussion and his team has made little outreach to allies in Congress.

For all the attention on Mr. Biden's gauzy announcement video and the symbolism his campaign attributed to the day he entered the race — precisely four years after he began his 2020 bid and with the same message of saving the nation's very soul — there is little evidence of the typical preparation for a national political campaign.

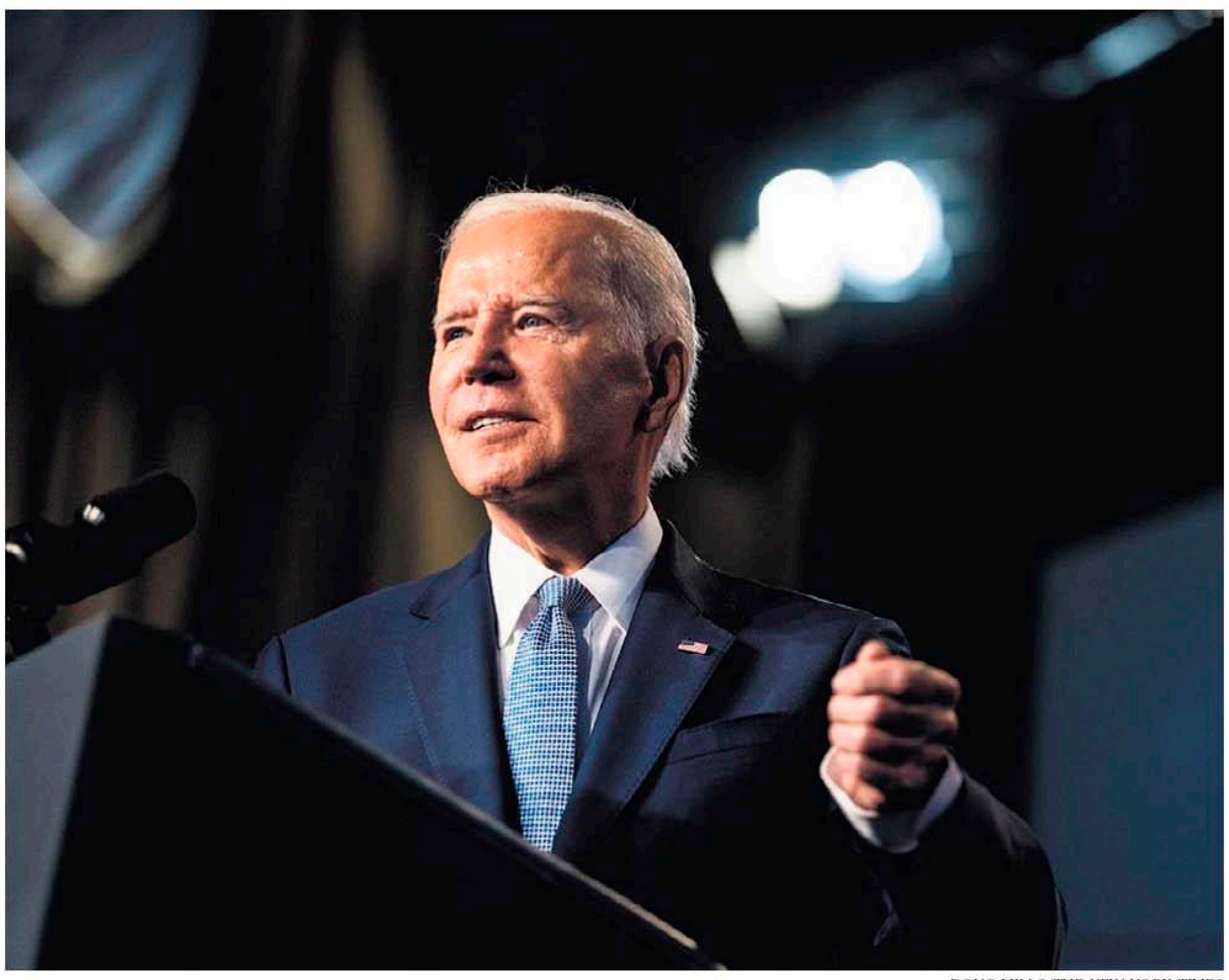
Mr. Biden's top advisers insist the limited-release nature of his 2024 campaign is boring by design. They say they are holding down costs by outsourcing as much as possible to the Democratic National Committee while the president's senior staff members remain ensconced in top White House roles that allow them to engage in campaign strategy.

"All of the pieces that should and need to fall into place will," Jeffrey Katzenberg, the Hollywood mogul and Democratic megadonor and one of the Biden campaign co-chairs, said in an interview.

But for an incumbent president in full control of his own re-election timeline, the decision to begin with such a skeletal operation has left even supporters confused. Democratic allies worry, some in public and more in private, that Mr. Biden and his political team — whose successes have come chiefly by running against Donald J. Trump rather than through organic liberal enthusiasm — are not displaying the necessary urgency for the coming battle.

"Part of me is troubled that people are more enthusiastic about doing the often unglamorous work of government policymaking when there's an extremely important political campaign that is staring us in the face," said John Del Cecato, a strategist on Barack Obama's 2008 and 2012 presidential campaigns. "I don't know if that speaks to a belief that this will be a joyless campaign re-election effort or if it's something else."

In the coming weeks and months, Mr. Biden will face two of the thorniest political issues of his presidency: an expected upturn of migrants at the Mexican border after a pandemic-era restriction on asylum requests expired this past week and a looming debt limit crisis that threatens the American economy.


DOUG MILLS/THE NEW YORK TIMES
President Biden's advisers say the limited-release nature of his 2024 campaign is boring by design.

On Wednesday, Mr. Biden went to a suburb of New York, where he discussed the debt limit in the district of one of the 18 House Republicans who represent areas that the president carried. Then he headed to Manhattan for two fund-raisers.

Skeletal campaign operation confuses some supporters.

Representative Mike Lawler, the freshman Republican who represents the district, said that the president's trip was not intimidating and that he had been invited and planned to attend.

"I guess he's trying to exert pressure in a district he won by 10 points," Mr. Lawler said. "It speaks volumes that that same district elected me to represent it. And I ran on serving as a check and balance on the Biden agenda."

Money, Biden advisers say, was a driving factor in entering the race. The campaign has already entered into a joint finance agreement with 47 of the 50 state Democratic Parties, which will allow it to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars at a time from individual donors.

Top Biden officials dismiss the early concerns from inside the party as sideline sniping. In their view, they rightfully ignored naysayers to keep Mr. Biden in his Delaware basement during the early months of the pandemic, disregarded calls to knock on doors in the fall of 2020 and highlighted threats to democracy in the midterm elections last year despite pleas from many Democrats to focus on the inflation-racked economy.

That string of victories has given Biden aides supreme confidence in their stay-the-course instincts, an ethos shared by Mr. Biden and top White House advisers including Jennifer O'Malley Dillon, Mike Donilon and Anita Dunn.

"We are meeting all of the goals and metrics we've set for ourselves to assemble another winning coalition in 2024," said Kevin Munoz, a campaign spokesman.

Jim Messina, who served as Mr. Obama's campaign manager in 2012, said the Biden team had some advantages that Mr. Obama did not, including a fully operational Democratic National Committee, which Mr. Obama had allowed to fall into a state of disrepair.

"They're staffed in the one place they need to be staffed," Mr. Messina said of the party and its fund-raising operation, which organized the New York events.

Polls show that a majority of Democrats want the party to nominate someone other than Mr. Biden. A gloomy Washington Post/ABC News survey released last weekend found that 58 percent of Democratic-leaning adults felt this way.

When it comes to raising money online, this lack of excitement has been a worry for Biden advisers, especially those who recall his 2019 struggles in that arena against his leading liberal rivals.

Mr. Munoz declined to say how much money the campaign had raised in its first 24 hours, but ActBlue, the online portal for contributions to Democratic candidates, reported $6.1 million in donations in the first 24 hours after Mr. Biden announced his candidacy. That is about the same as the amounts that Senator Bernie Sanders of Vermont and former Representative Beto O'Rourke of Texas raised in the first day of their 2020 presidential campaigns.

But not all of those ActBlue donations went to Mr. Biden; they make up the total given to every Democrat in the country that day.

The campaign is preparing to lean heavily on major donors in the first months of the race, and invited top bundlers to Washington on the first weekend of the campaign for a private briefing.

Mr. Katzenberg said the campaign's fund-raising would rely equally on Mr. Biden's popularity among Democratic donors and a liberal fear that Mr. Trump could return to the White House.

"The difference between passion and anxiety is not discernible," Mr. Katzenberg said. "Whether somebody is doing this out of their passion and belief in the president — fantastic. If they're doing it out of anxiety of what the alternative is — fantastic. The color of the green is the same."

Earlier this month, Reid Hoffman, the billionaire LinkedIn co-founder and one of the party's most important financiers, organized a donor briefing at the Rosewood hotel in San Francisco, pulling in several dozen donors for the pro-Biden super PAC American Bridge, according to two attendees.

Notably, the early television ads that the Biden campaign has announced were paid for by the Democratic National Committee, which had $28.7 million on hand at the beginning of April. For now, senior Biden officials are planning to push as many costs as they legally can to the party, which can raise far larger sums. The campaign does not have a physical headquarters yet; for now, aides are working out of the D.N.C.'s building in Washington.

Mr. Biden's New York trip included two small fund-raisers that were pulled together relatively hastily. Tony James, a former top executive at the private equity giant Blackstone, hosted one event, where tickets began at $25,000, according to invitations.

For now, the White House seems happy to cede the national stage to the Republican primary race. Mr. Biden's first television interview after his announcement, on MSNBC, was buried at 10 p.m. last Friday.

"It would be unfortunate if they let the Republican nominee govern the conversation on a day-to-day basis," said Faiz Shakir, the campaign manager for Mr. Sanders's 2020 bid. "It feels like too much of a wild card to sit back. You've got to figure out a way to excite and energize people about your own conversation and to drive Donald Trump into that one."

Representative Jasmine Crockett, a Texas Democrat, said she had yet to hear any outreach about the president's re-election bid from Biden campaign aides or the campaign's co-chairs. She said she had seen little excitement about Mr. Biden in her Dallas-area district and had told worried constituents to get behind the president's re-election.

"The stakes are too high for us to play chicken with this," she said. "We all know that we've got issues with our family. But at the end of the day, I would not trade my family in for the alternative."

Mitchell Berger, a South Florida campaign bundler who has been involved in Democratic politics for decades, said the onus should not be on the Biden campaign to generate excitement. He said comparisons to Mr. Obama were not helpful.

"President Biden is an exceptional political actor and he does very well with people, but, you know, the excitement generated by the Obamas is a once-in-a-generation kind of thing," said Mr. Berger, who attended the campaign's donor gathering in Washington last month.

Mr. Katzenberg said Mr. Biden's campaign had made a deliberate choice to begin without a full staff in place. The campaign manager, Julie Chávez Rodríguez, remains in her White House job until this week, and other critical roles, including a finance director and a communications director, remain unfilled.

"It's not a question of whether it could or couldn't have been done, it just wasn't a priority," Mr. Katzenberg said. "It's simply not material, let alone essential, that it get done before."

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DeSantis Is Limping To the '24 Starting Line After Bruising Missteps

From Page 1

— instead opened a window of opportunity for Mr. Trump. The former president filled the void with personal attacks and a heavy rotation of negative advertising from his super PAC. Combined with Mr. DeSantis's cocooning himself in the right-wing media and the Trump team's success in outflanking him on several fronts, the governor has lost control of his own national narrative.

Now, as Mr. DeSantis's Tallahassee-based operation pivots to formally entering the race in the coming weeks, Mr. DeSantis and his allies are retooling for a more aggressive new phase. His staunchest supporters privately acknowledge that Mr. DeSantis needs to recalibrate a political outreach and media strategy that has allowed Mr. Trump to define the race.

Changes are afoot. Mr. DeSantis is building a strong Iowa operation. He has been calling influential Republicans in Iowa and is rolling out a large slate of state legislator endorsements before a weekend trip there.

"He definitely indicated that if he gets in, he will work exceptionally hard — nothing will be below him," said Bob Vander Plaats, an influential Iowa evangelical leader whom Mr. DeSantis hosted recently for a meal at the governor's mansion. "I think he understands — I emphasized that Iowa's a retail politics state. You need to shake people's hands, look them in the eye."

Still, his central electability pitch — MAGA without the mess — has been badly bruised.

A book tour that was supposed to have introduced him nationally was marked by missteps that deepened concerns about his readiness for the biggest stage. He took positions on two pressing domestic and international issues — abortion and the war in Ukraine — that generated second-guessing and backlash among some allies and would-be benefactors. And the moves he has made to appeal to the hard right — escalating his feud with Disney, signing a strict six-week abortion ban — have unnerved donors who are worried about the general election.

"I was in the DeSantis camp," said Andrew Sabin, a metals magnate who gave the Florida governor $50,000 last year. "But he started opening his mouth, and a lot of big donors said his views aren't tolerable." He specifically cited abortion and Ukraine.

Three billionaires who are major G.O.P. donors — Steve Wynn, Ike Perlmutter and Thomas Peterffy, a past DeSantis patron who has publicly soured on him — dined recently with Vivek Ramaswamy, the 37-year-old long-shot Republican.

The early months of 2023 have exposed a central challenge for Mr. DeSantis. He needs to stitch together an unwieldy ideological coalition bridging both anti-Trump Republicans and Trump supporters who are nonetheless considering turning the page on the past president. Hitting and hugging Mr. Trump at the same time has bedeviled rivals since Senator Ted Cruz tried to do so in 2016, and Cruz veterans fill key roles in Mr. DeSantis's campaign and his super PAC.

Allies of both leading Republicans caution that it's still early.

Mr. DeSantis has more than $100 million stored across various pro-DeSantis accounts. He is building good will with state party leaders by headlining fund-raisers. He remains, in public polls, the most serious rival to Mr. Trump. And a supportive super PAC called Never Back Down is staffing up across more than a dozen states, has already spent more than $10 million on television ads and has peppered early states with direct mail.

DeSantis supporters point to polls showing that the governor remains well-liked by Republicans.

"The hits aren't working," said Kristin Davison, chief operating officer of Never Back Down. "His favorability has not changed."

The DeSantis team declined to provide any comment for this story.

Six months ago, as Republicans were blaming Mr. Trump for the party's 2022 midterm underperformance, a high-flying Mr. DeSantis made the traditional political decision that he would govern first in early 2023 and campaign second. The rush of conservative priorities that Mr. DeSantis has turned into law in Florida — on guns, immigration, abortion, school vouchers, opposing China — is expected to form the backbone of his campaign.

"Now, the governor can create momentum by spending time publicly touting his endless accomplishments, calling supporters and engaging more publicly to push back on the false narratives his potential competitors are spewing," said Nick Iarossi, a lobbyist in Florida and a longtime DeSantis supporter.

A turning point this year for Mr. Trump was his Manhattan indictment, which Mr. DeSantis waffled on responding to as the G.O.P. base rallied to Mr. Trump's defense.

Yet Mr. Trump's compounding legal woes and potential future indictments could eventually have the opposite effect — exhausting voters, which is Mr. DeSantis's hope. A jury found Mr. Trump liable this past week for sexual abuse and defamation. "When you get all these lawsuits coming at you," Mr. DeSantis told one associate recently, "it's just distracting."

'So God Made a Fighter'

The DeSantis team seemed to buy its own hype.

Days before the midterms, the DeSantis campaign released a video that cast his rise as ordained from on high. "On the eighth day, God looked down on his planned paradise and said, 'I need a protector,'" a narrator booms as Mr. DeSantis appears onscreen. "So God made a fighter."

For years, the self-confident Mr. DeSantis has relied on his own instincts and the counsel of his wife, Casey DeSantis, who posted the video, to set his political course, according to past aides and current associates. Mr. DeSantis has been written off before — in his first primary for governor; in his first congressional primary — so both he and his wife have gotten used to tuning out critics.

Today, allies say there are few people around who are willing to tell Mr. DeSantis he's wrong, even in private.

In late 2022, the thinking was that a decision on 2024 could wait, and Mr. Trump's midterm hangover would linger. Mr. DeSantis published a book — "I was, you know, kind of a hot commodity," he said of writing it — that became a best seller. And Mr. DeSantis was on the offensive, tweaking Mr. Trump with a February donor retreat held only miles from Mar-a-Lago that drew Trump contributors.

But it has been Mr. Trump who has consistently one-upped Mr. DeSantis, flying into East Palestine, Ohio, after the rail disaster there, appearing with a larger crowd in the same Iowa city days after Mr. DeSantis and swiping Florida congressional endorsements while Mr. DeSantis traveled to Washington.

One Trump endorser, Representative Lance Gooden of Texas, backed the former president only hours after attending a private group meeting with Mr. DeSantis. In an interview, Mr. Gooden likened Mr. DeSantis's decision to delay entry until after a legislative session to the example of a past Texas governor, Rick Perry, who did the same a decade ago — and quickly flamed out of the 2012 contest.

"He's relied, much like Rick Perry did, on local political experts in his home state that just don't know the presidential landscape," Mr. Gooden said.

Avoiding Scrutiny

Mr. Trump has insinuated, without providing evidence, that Mr. DeSantis had inappropriate relationships with high school girls during a stint as a teacher in the early 2000s and that Mr. DeSantis might be gay.

His team has portrayed Mr. DeSantis as socially inept, and a pro-Trump super PAC distributed a video — dubbed "Pudding Fingers" — playing off news articles about Mr. DeSantis's uncouth eating habits.

People close to Mr. Trump have been blunt in private discussions that the hits so far are just the start: If Mr. DeSantis ever appears poised to capture the nomination, the former president will do everything he can to tear him apart.

Beginning with his response to the coronavirus outbreak, Mr. DeSantis's national rise has been uniquely powered by his ability to make the right enemies: in academia, in the news media, among liberal activists and at the White House. But Mr. Trump's broadsides and some of his own actions have put Mr. DeSantis crosswise with the right for the first time. It has been a disorienting experience for the DeSantis operation, according to allies.

For the past three years, Mr. DeSantis has had the luxury of completely shutting out what he pejoratively brands the "national regime media" or "the corporate media" — though Rupert Murdoch's Fox Corporation does not, in his view, count as corporate media.

This strategy served Mr. DeSantis well in Florida. But avoiding sit-down interviews with skeptical journalists has left him out of practice as he prepares for the most intense scrutiny of his career.

"The Murdochs encapsulated him in a bubble and force-fed him to a conservative audience," said Steve Bannon, a former strategist for Mr. Trump. "He hasn't been scuffed up. He hasn't had these questions put in his grill."

Even in friendly settings, Mr. DeSantis has stumbled. In a February interview with The Times of London, a Murdoch property, Mr. DeSantis cut off questions after the reporter pushed him on how he thought President Biden should handle Ukraine differently.

The former Fox News host Tucker Carlson was so irked by Mr. DeSantis's evasion that he sent a detailed questionnaire to potential Republican presidential candidates to force them to state their positions on the war, according to two people familiar with his decision.

In a written response, Mr. DeSantis characterized Russia's invasion as a "territorial dispute." Republican hawks and some of Mr. DeSantis's top donors were troubled. In public, the governor soon cleaned up his statement to say Russia had not had "a right" to invade. In private, Mr. DeSantis tried to calm supporters by noting that his statement had not taken a position against aid to Ukraine.

While Mr. DeSantis has stuck to his preferred way of doing things, Mr. Trump has given seats on his plane to reporters from outlets that have published harsh stories about him. And despite having spent years calling CNN "fake news," Mr. Trump recently attended a CNN town hall.

DeSantis allies said the governor would begrudgingly bring in some of the "national regime media." Some early proof: The governor's tight-lipped team invited a Politico columnist to Tallahassee and supplied rare on-the-record access.

'I Was a Bit Insulted'

Not long after Mr. DeSantis had won in a landslide last fall, the incoming freshman, Representative Cory Mills, a Florida Republican, called the governor's team to try to thank him for his support. Mr. Mills had campaigned on the eve of the election with Casey DeSantis and had appeared with the governor, too. "I called to show my appreciation and never even got a call back," Mr. Mills said in an interview. "To be honest with you, I was a bit insulted by it."

The lack of relationships on Capitol Hill became a public headache in April when Mr. Trump rolled out what eventually became 10 Florida House Republican endorsements during Mr. DeSantis's trip to Washington.

Donors who contributed to Mr. DeSantis's previous campaigns tell stories of meetings in which the candidate looked as though he would rather be anywhere else. He fiddled with his phone, showed no interest in his hosts and escaped as quickly as possible. But people who have recently met with Mr. DeSantis say he has been far more engaged. At recent Wisconsin and New Hampshire events, the governor worked the room as he had rarely done before.

The governor and his team have had internal conversations acknowledging the need for him to engage in the basics of political courtship: small talk, handshaking, eye contact.

For his part, Mr. Trump recently relished hosting the Florida House Republicans who had endorsed him.

On one side of him was Mr. Mills. On the other was Mr. Donalds, who had introduced Mr. DeSantis on election night and who had been in Mr. DeSantis's orbit since helping with debate prep during Mr. DeSantis's 2018 run for governor.

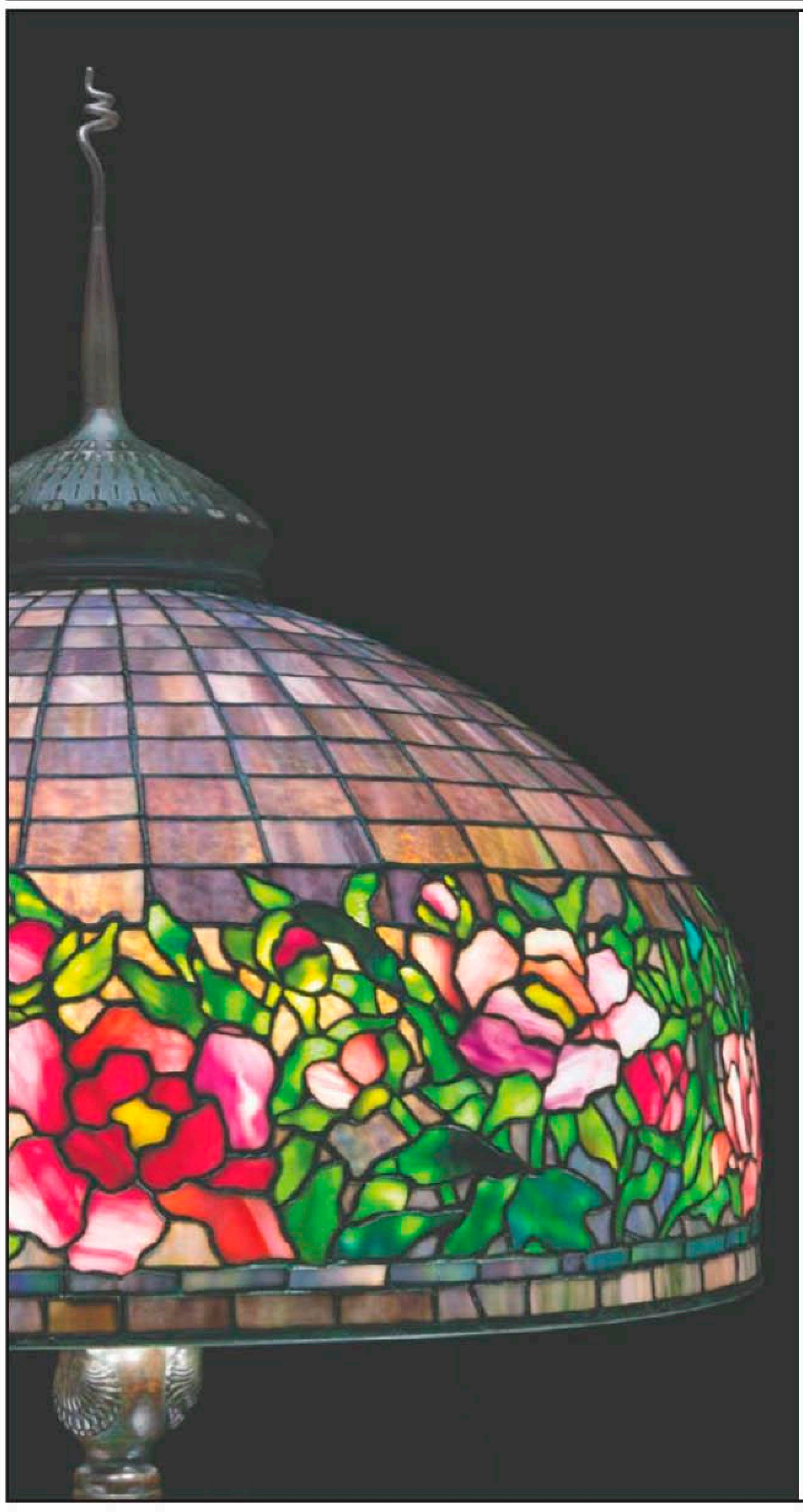
Mr. Donalds declined an interview. But footage of those private debate-prep sessions, first reported by ABC News, shows Mr. DeSantis trying to formulate an answer to a question that will define his imminent 2024 run: how to disagree with Mr. Trump without appearing disagreeable to Trump supporters.

"I have to frame it in a way," Mr. DeSantis said then, "that's not going to piss off all his voters."



JAMIE KELTER DAVIS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Gov. Ron DeSantis met supporters at an event in Wisconsin this month. Previously, donors said, he showed no interest in his hosts.



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Cemetery Raises Fears Of Environmental 'Wreck' For New Jersey Neighbors

By TRACEY TULLY

UPPER SADDLE RIVER, N.J. — Har Shalom Cemetery was built on a hillside in Rockland County, N.Y., along a winding rural road a short walk from the border of New Jersey. Covering nearly 20 acres, it is expected to become the largest cemetery in the country reserved solely for ultra-Orthodox Jews.

Across the street, a sprawling facility where women will be able to immerse in a mikvah, a ritual Jewish bath, is under construction on land in New York that abuts backyards in Upper Saddle River, N.J.

The developments were approved by zoning and planning boards in New York, in part based on a federal law adopted in 2000 to safeguard religious entities from burdensome or discriminatory land-use regulations.

But neighbors in New Jersey and in New York who are now fighting to block, or scale back, the projects say the approval and oversight process has been blind to an arguably greater power: Mother Nature.

"We are observing an environmental train wreck in slow motion," said Heather Federico, who lives in nearby Mahwah, N.J., and is a member of a community group opposed to both ventures.

The projects have separate developers but, according to opponents, present similar risks: overburdening the region's already strained sewage pipes and jeopardizing the safety and availability of ground water in an area where most homes rely on wells for gardening, bathing, cooking and drinking.

Earlier this month, Upper Saddle River officials said that they had hired a private lawyer to focus on residents' environmental concerns and had scheduled meetings with state and federal leaders in New York and New Jersey.

The cemetery, in Airmont, N.Y., has been granted approval for more than 10,000 burials, or roughly 1,000 for each acre of land that has so far been cleared — a density Har Shalom's manager, Michael Moskowitz, said would take decades to reach.

Still, neighbors are pressing for increased testing of well water, concerned that leachates from the large volume of decomposing matter could filter into wells and the nearby Saddle River, presenting a health threat.

The interments are considered green burials: no embalming fluids are used; bodies are placed in simple wooden coffins; and the graves are not lined with concrete vaults or lids, facilitating decomposition and the body's return to the earth.

Mr. Moskowitz questioned whether the opposition had more to do with bias than with environmental safety.

"They are fighting every single Jewish project," Mr. Moskowitz said. "What does it show? That you don't like my existence."

Two decades ago, a plan to build a yeshiva, housing and dormitory complex on the same rural property was similarly unpopular, as was a plan to construct a Christian church years before that.

Opponents acknowledge the inherent clash of cultures that exists between residents of one of the wealthiest regions of New Jersey and the tight-knit Orthodox religious community that holds fast to its traditions. But they insist that their objections are rooted in environmental concerns and frustration over what they consider a fast-tracked approval process weighted in favor of Rockland County's thriving ultra-Orthodox Jewish community.

"It was designed as a shield," William Spencer, of Upper Saddle River, said about the religious land-use statute, "but it's been turned into a sword."

There have been few burials at the cemetery so far, but a large funeral and graveside service last month for a popular Hasidic singer, Michoel Schnitzler, drew hundreds of mourners, leading traffic to back up along the narrow country road. After the service, several neighbors complained that a makeshift latrine had been dug at the edge of the cemetery after Har Shalom's single portable toilet became overwhelmed by the crowd, Rockland County health department records show.

Earlier this month, the projects became a focal point of a lengthy council meeting in Upper Saddle River.

Grace Clark urged the borough to begin collecting and comparing well-water testing data to create a baseline record of water quality.

"I'm very concerned about my water," said Ms. Clark, of Upper Saddle River, adding that she lived beside a brook that was downhill from the cemetery. "My kids play in it all the time."

The second project, the Hillside Mikvah, is being erected on land that once held two homes. It is slated to include more than 50 shower rooms and eight private pools, which, according to Orthodox custom, are used by women after their menstrual cycles and before marriage. Builders have already dug three wells but have not installed a new water line, which was discussed in an engineering report as a way to avoid the facility's overreliance on well water and to fight fire, if needed, in a region with no hydrants.

A spokesman for Veolia, the company that supplies water to the area, said that an application to install a new water main line was pending; representatives of the mikvah did not return calls or emails.

In granting approval for the mikvah, the planning board in Ramapo, N.Y., voted to overrule Rockland County officials, who had recommended denying the project because it exceeded some land-use guidelines.

"Applying those standards to this religious facility would impose an unreasonable burden and require a reduction in the size of the community mikvah and its ability to meet the demonstrated need of the religious community it will serve," the Ramapo Planning Board wrote.

Gordon Wren, 75, was a firefighter for more than five decades and worked for 35 years as an emergency-services fire coordinator for Rockland County. He said he did not relish his role as an opponent of projects being built to serve his neighbors in the Orthodox Jewish community. But he said he was concerned about the safety and availability of a shared communal resource — water — and the volume of waste heading into pipes with a history of being pushed beyond their capacity.





PHOTOGRAPHS BY JAMES ESTRIN/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Above, Danielle Meehan, Gordon Wren and William Spencer are among the neighbors concerned the cemetery and mikvah could contaminate nearby waterways, left.



The mikvah, a ritual bath for Jewish women required by some Orthodox congregations, is still under construction.

"It's beyond bad planning," Mr. Wren, of Ramapo, said.

New York's Department of Environmental Conservation has twice issued violations to the mikvah's developer; last year, the department ordered all work to stop because of a missing permit. The problems were fixed, and D.E.C.'s legal team is evaluating whether to issue fines that can exceed $37,500 for each of the days the project was out of compliance, a spokeswoman said.

A spokeswoman for New York State's Division of Cemeteries said it does not regulate religious cemeteries and had no information about the risk of decomposed matter to well water.

There is little scientific research concerning the potential impact of cemeteries on human health and the environment, according to a recent report produced for the Baltimore County Department of Environmental Protection and Sustainability.

In 1998, the World Health Organization reviewed "the current state of knowledge" about the decomposition of human corpses in soil and the likelihood that bacteria and viruses, including polio, could seep into groundwater and spread waterborne diseases.

"If the cemetery is located in a porous soil type, such as sand or gravel, movement of seepage can be rapid and mix easily with the groundwater beneath the site," the report found.

Other types of soil, however, can efficiently absorb and filter pathogens when bodies are buried above the water table, the report found. "The pollution potential from cemeteries is present, but in a well-managed cemetery with suitable soil conditions and drainage arrangements, the risk is probably slight," the W.H.O. found.

Caitlyn Hauke of the Green Burial Council, which advocates for simple, environmentally friendly burials, said that pathogens from cemeteries were unlikely to travel far if graves were dug at "an appropriate depth."

"Soil is really a great filter," said Dr. Hauke, an infectious disease microbiologist. "It clings onto a lot of the elements that get released during decomposition, so they're not going to travel real far from where that body rests."

As for the mikvah, Michael Specht, Ramapo's supervisor, said that it was a permitted use for the area and that its owners had obtained all necessary permits. He acknowledged the frustration of New Jersey residents who might feel that they have limited tools to influence projects so close to the states' shared border.

"Just as we have no say if it's in New Jersey," he said.

Writers Guild Nixes Waiver For Broadcast Of the Tonys

By MICHAEL PAULSON and JOHN KOBLIN

The union representing thousands of striking television and movie writers denied a waiver that Broadway officials had sought that would have allowed the Tony Awards ceremony to proceed with a live televised broadcast on its scheduled date of June 11, two people briefed on the decision said on Friday night.

The denial by the union, the Writers Guild of America, described by people who were granted anonymity to disclose confidential discussions, is imperiling one of Broadway's biggest nights — a key marketing opportunity that is even more crucial in the fragile post-shutdown theater economy. Industry leaders say that without the ability to reach the broad audience that tunes into a Tony Awards broadcast, several of the newest musicals are likely to close.

Broadway boosters are still hoping that over the weekend the writers' guild might be persuaded to change its mind. But industry leaders are acknowledging that such a reversal seems unlikely. Without a waiver from the writers' guild, a live broadcast ceremony is essentially impossible because much of Broadway, including nominees and presenters, would refuse to cross a picket line.

The management committee of the Tony Awards, which is the group charged with overseeing the broadcast, has scheduled an emergency meeting on Monday at which it will discuss how to proceed.

One option would be to postpone the entire event until after the strike is settled, in which case some money-losing Broadway shows would most likely close rather than hang on in the hopes of an eventual boost from a broadcast. Another would be to hand out the awards in June in some nontelevised fashion, which would significantly reduce the marketing value of the awards. But they could try to make up for that by staging some kind of razzle-dazzle song-and-dance-heavy broadcast after the strike ends.

None of the parties would speak on the record on Friday night, but several people close to the discussions described the state of affairs after The Hollywood Reporter reported that the waiver had been denied.

The stakes are enormous for Broadway. The Tony Awards are the industry's biggest marketing moment — a chance to introduce viewers to shows they have not heard of, and to remind them of the joys of musical theater — and that kind of reach is especially important now, with Broadway attendance yet to reach prepandemic levels. Four of the five nominees for best new musical are not selling enough tickets to cover their running costs many weeks, and all could use the box office boost that a win, or even a well-performed number on the awards show, often provides.



Black Students on a Biden Disconnect and Their Generational Shift

By ZOLAN KANNO-YOUNGS | Photographs by KYNA UWAEME

WASHINGTON — When Ethan Hayes, a senior at Howard University, talks to his mother about politics, they don't always see eye to eye.

During the 2020 presidential campaign, Mr. Hayes was skeptical of Joseph R. Biden Jr. because of his record on criminal justice. His mother, Lindi Hayes, who said she grew up in a "fairly conservative" Christian household, felt differently.

"Well, look at the alternative," Ms. Hayes would tell her son, warning against four more years of President Donald J. Trump.

"I don't want to look at the alternative," Mr. Hayes would reply. "I want to look at someone brand-new."

The mother-son split mirrors a broader generational divide among Black voters on President Biden, who needs their support as he runs for re-election. Although Black voters were a key constituency that sent Mr. Biden to the White House in 2020, polls show that Black voters under 30 have far less enthusiasm for Mr. Biden than their elders do.

The Democratic National Committee said it has invested in reaching young Black voters through a variety of initiatives, including issuing grants to states to expand voter registration and hiring campus organizers in battleground states.

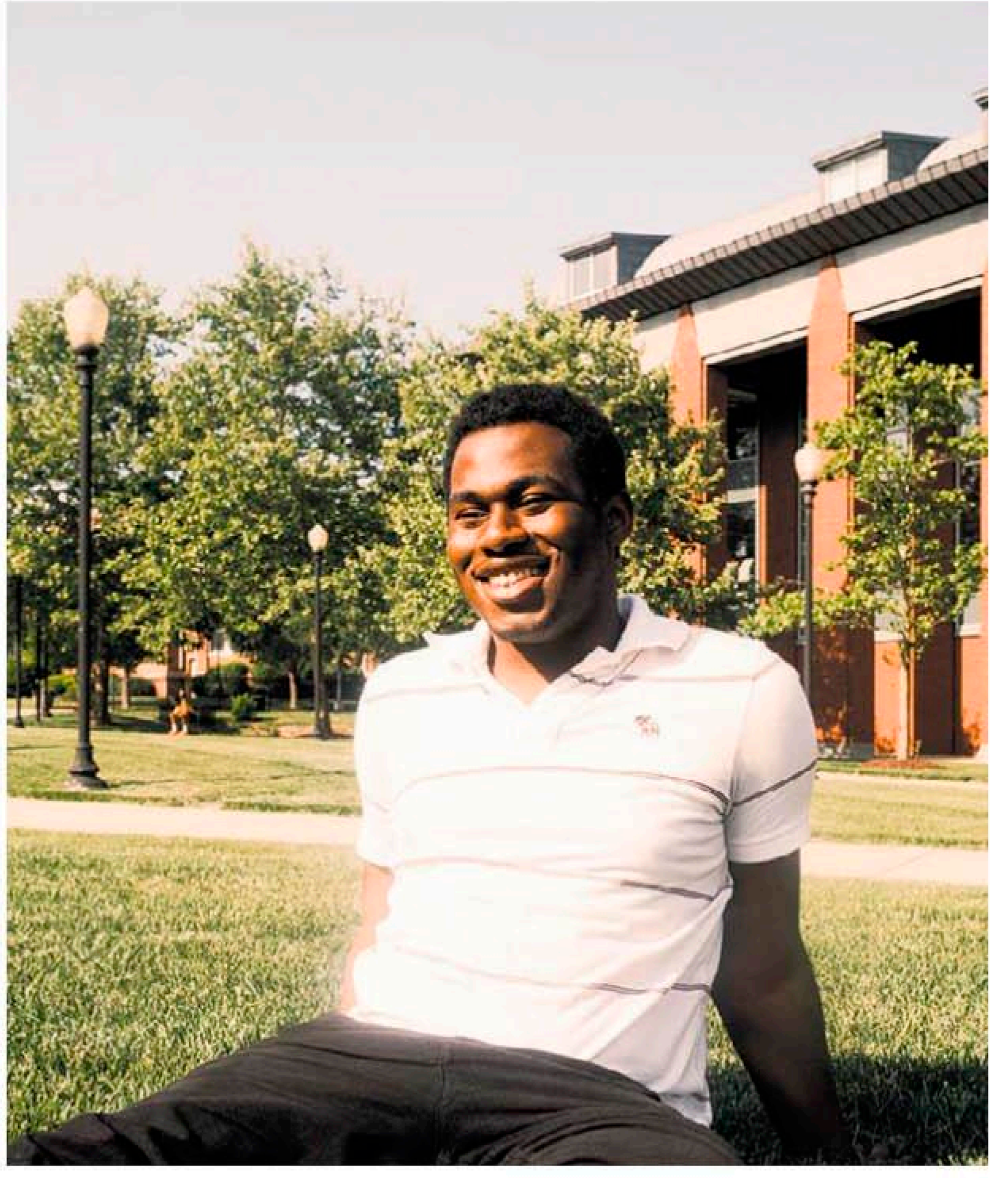
But Quentin James, a co-founder of the Collective Pac, an organization that aims to elect Black officials, said the generation gap was "going to be a huge challenge for Democrats."

"I'm very nervous in our ability not only to maintain Black voters but engage younger Black voters in the way we need to to win 2024," Mr. James said.

The New York Times spoke to students at Howard, the renowned historically Black university, in the days leading up to Mr. Biden's commencement address there on Saturday.

Most of them said they would still vote for Mr. Biden rather than a Republican. They spoke about their views, how their opinions differ from their parents' — and what they want for the future.

Andrew Coulibaly Junior



"I don't really see any other contenders right now," said Mr. Coulibaly, a 20-year-old finance major from Maryland.

Still, he said he was disappointed in the White House's response to state efforts to restrict abortion rights. He was there when Vice President Kamala Harris spoke about abortion last month in a speech at Howard, her alma mater. He remembers thinking, "This feels nice, but what's the plan?"

Mr. Coulibaly leans more progressive than his parents. His mother supports abortion rights but does not often speak about the issue, he said. She supports Mr. Biden "a lot more" than he does, Mr. Coulibaly said. But he still plans on voting for the president.

Laila Muhammad Sophomore



"He's old and white, and I'm young and Black," said Ms. Muhammad, a 20-year-old nutritional science major from New Jersey. "It's just a really big disconnect."

She plans to vote in 2024 but does not yet know for whom. Her parents voted for Mr. Biden because they felt he was the best chance to beat Mr. Trump. She expects they will vote for Mr. Biden again.

"I do want more out of him than my parents," Ms. Muhammad said.

Caleb Brantley Sophomore



"My biggest stance is on education," said Mr. Brantley, a 20-year-old political science major from Chicago. "In order to have well-rounded citizens, you have to make sure it's affordable."

Mr. Brantley said he appreciates that Mr. Biden helped the economy rebound after the pandemic. He also said he would be watching to see what happened with Mr. Biden's student loan relief plan, which was being held up in the courts. Although Mr. Brantley supports the plan, he said his father did not believe in "handouts."

"Unfortunately, my dad, he does believe I should be one to pay my own student loan debt back," Mr. Brantley said.

Darley Senat Graduating Senior

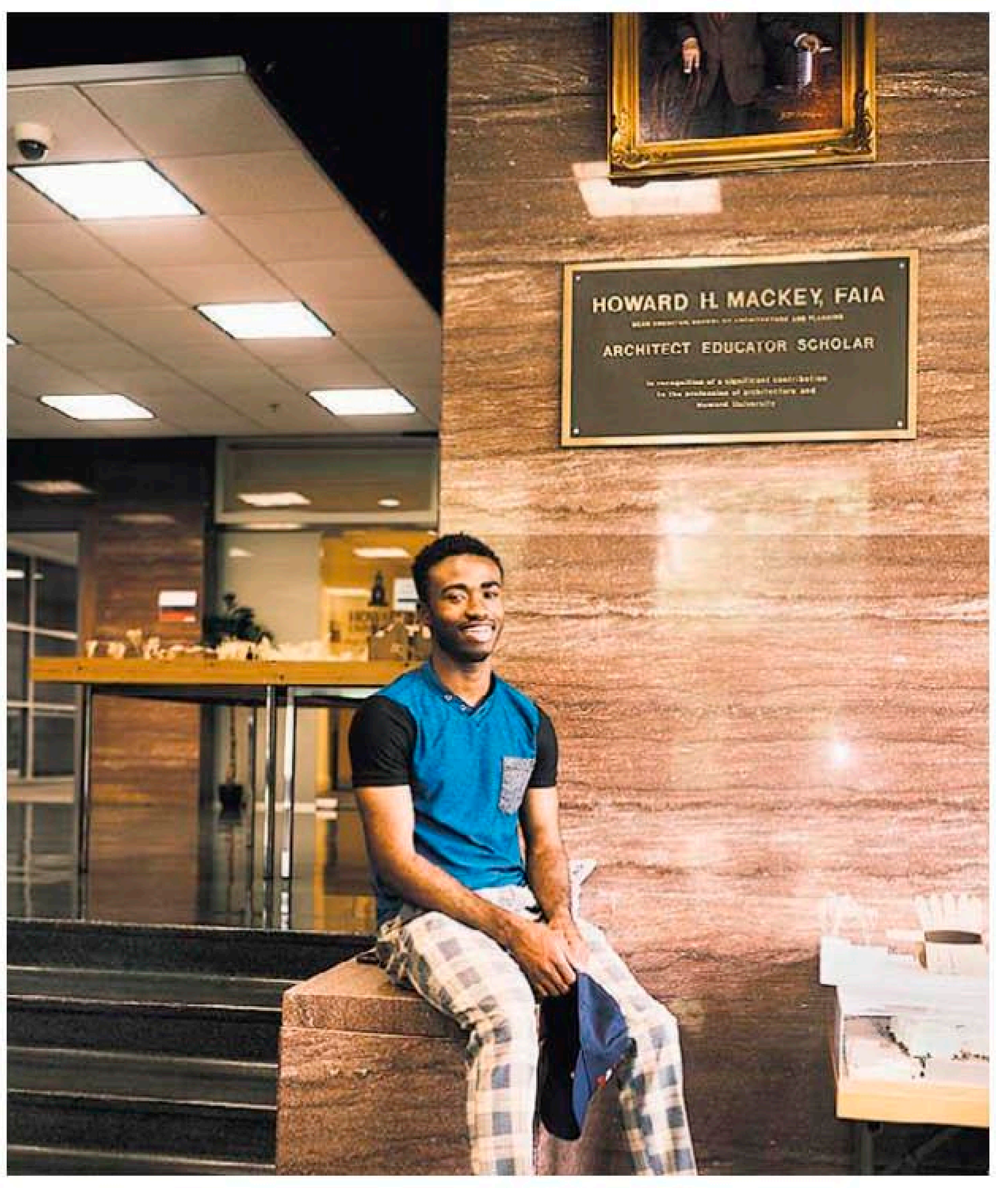


"I feel like whenever voting comes along, it's always the lesser of two evils," said Ms. Senat, a biology major from New York. She said she wouldn't describe herself as "excited" about the presidential campaign.

Her parents support Mr. Biden opening up a legal pathway for Haitian immigrants, but she thinks the president could do more to invest in her parents' home of Haiti.

"More could be done," she said.

Daniel Mensah Freshman



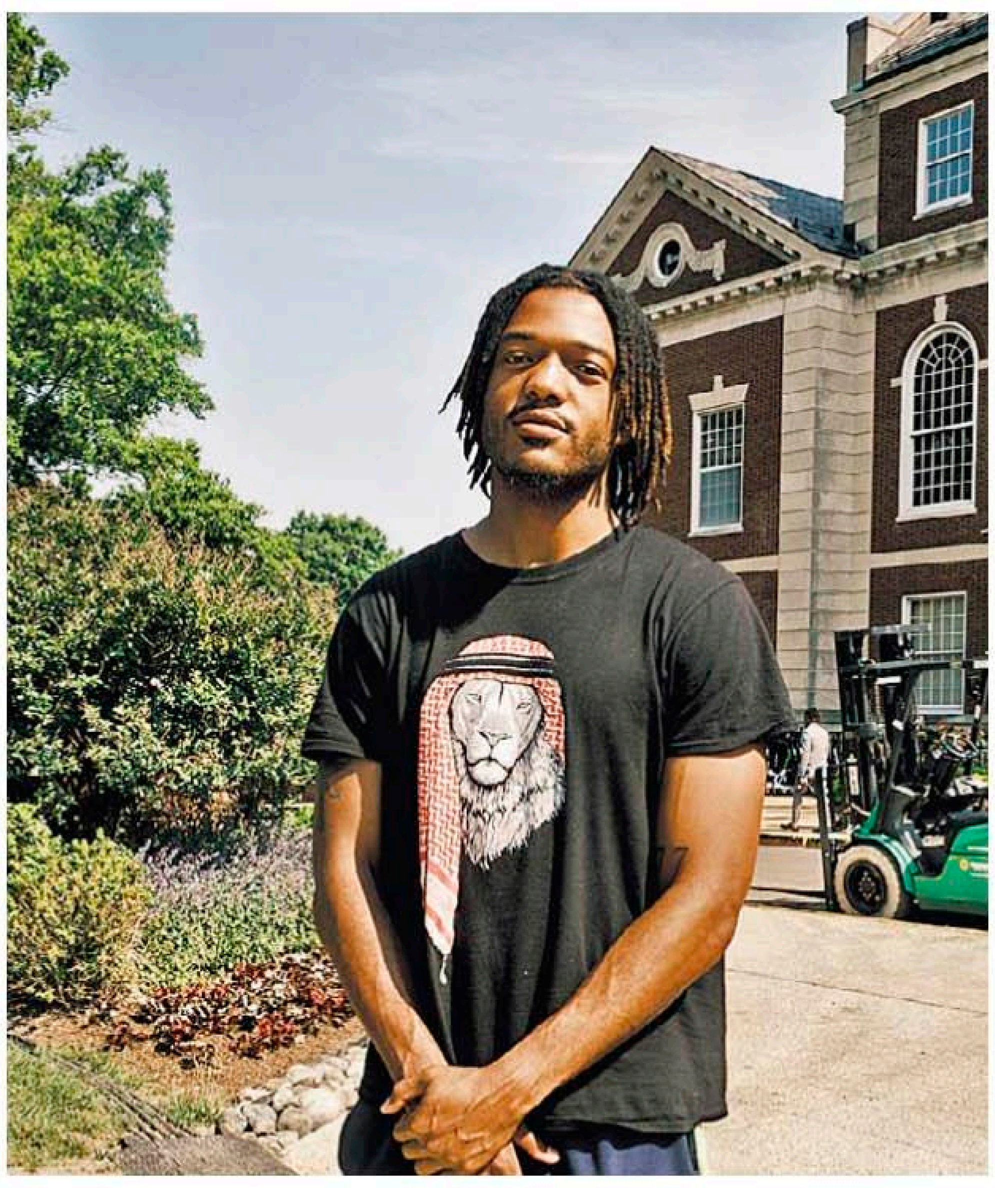
"It will be great to have someone who's young," said Mr. Mensah, a civil engineering major from Minnesota. He plans to vote in his first presidential election in 2024. But he said he was hoping for a candidate closer to his age.

"Not to insult Joe Biden, but I feel like it's a stress on him," he said.

He does give Mr. Biden credit for trying to cancel some student loan debt.

"If that's able to pass through, that's a huge feat," Mr. Mensah said. "Taking that off would be great for not only people that have a huge debt but people like me who are coming through."

Ethan Hayes Graduating Senior



Mr. Hayes and his mother agree on most policies. But he said that as of now, he would not vote for Mr. Biden.

He acknowledges that unlike Mr. Trump, the president is not saying "crazy" things on Twitter. But those antics were not a big deal to him.

"That's whatever," said Mr. Hayes, a supply-chain management major from Indiana. "That doesn't affect my life, bro. I just feel like I'm not being helped. He's taking the vote for granted."

At Howard Commencement, Biden Warns of 'Sinister Forces' Threatening Racial Progress

By PETER BAKER and ZOLAN KANNO-YOUNGS

WASHINGTON — President Biden declared on Saturday that white supremacy is "the most dangerous terrorist threat to our homeland" and warned a predominantly Black audience that "sinister forces" embraced by his predecessor and putative challenger are trying to reverse generations of racial progress in America.

Mr. Biden never named former President Donald J. Trump in his sometimes stark commencement address to the graduating class of Howard University, the renowned historically Black college. He alluded, however, to Mr. Trump's past statements to link him to racist elements in American society and suggest that the presidential campaign that has just gotten underway will determine whether justice will prevail over hate, fear and violence.

"There are those who demonize and pit people against one another," Mr. Biden said. "And there are those who will do anything and everything, no matter how desperate or immoral, to hold onto power. That's never going to be an easy battle. But I know this — the oldest, most sinister forces may believe they'll determine America's future. But they are wrong. We will determine America's future. You will determine America's future."

Wearing blue and white academic robes, the president sought to enlist the young graduates in what he presented as the cause of this moment. He cited the killing of George Floyd by a police officer in 2020, which touched off widespread protests against police brutality, and expressed empathy with Black drivers who are fearful when they are pulled over by officers.

"Fearless progress toward justice often meets ferocious pushback from the oldest and most sinister of forces," he said. "That's because hate never goes away. I thought when I graduated that we could defeat hate. But it never goes away."

Likewise, Mr. Biden said that "after the election and re-election of the first Black American president, I had hoped the fear and violence and hate was significantly losing ground."

He discovered otherwise, he said, when neo-Nazis and white supremacists clashed with counterprotesters in Charlottesville, Va., in August 2017, and he recounted Mr. Trump's reaction. "What did you hear?" he asked. "That famous quote: 'There are very fine people on both sides.' That's when I knew, and I'm not joking, that's when I knew I had to stay engaged and get back into public life."

Mr. Trump's supporters have said his line has been distorted and note that he did at one point condemn neo-Nazis. But as he has opened a campaign to recapture the presidency, Mr. Trump has more openly embraced racist and extremist elements in American life. Last winter, he hosted for dinner the rap artist Ye, who has made antisemitic statements, and Nick Fuentes, a prominent white supremacist who attended the far-right Charlottesville rally.

The choice of Howard offered Mr. Biden an opportunity to shore up support in the most loyal constituency in the Democratic Party, one that he needs to win re-election next year. While polls show continued strong support for Mr. Biden among Black voters, political analysts and party strategists have expressed concern about an enthusiasm gap that could complicate prospects for the president, who needs high turnout from his base.

Mr. Biden has been stymied on goals like cracking down on police brutality and bolstering voting rights. He did sign an executive order on federal law enforcement last year, although crucial pieces of the order have not been implemented. Many supporters say he has fallen short on his pledge to make systemic changes to the criminal justice system.

But he chose Kamala Harris (a Howard graduate) as the first Black vice president; appointed the first Black woman to the Supreme Court, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson; and has put more Black women on the federal bench than every other president combined. Unemployment among Black Americans fell to a record low of 4.7 percent in April.

Of particular interest to his audience on Saturday, Mr. Biden has developed a program to forgive $400 billion in student loans over the next few decades, wiping out up to $20,000 apiece for those who qualify. But the Supreme Court appears poised to invalidate it.

Mr. Biden won 92 percent of Black voters in 2020, but only 58 percent said they approved of his performance in the latest Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research poll.

Mr. Biden found a friendly but not exactly exuberant crowd on Saturday. Graduating seniors and their families filled much of Capital One Arena, the home of the Washington Capitals and Wizards, and greeted him warmly, although a dozen stood in protest, some holding signs about issues like military research. The ambivalence among students and graduates was evident in interviews on campus before the ceremony.

"He's a pretty good person," Mariah Davis, 19, a mechanical engineering major, said of Mr. Biden. "He's just really trying to advocate for a lot of groups of people who are unheard."

But some students said they were not sure they could connect with him. "We feel a little strange about him coming to commencement because obviously he can teach us things about values, but what is he going to say that hasn't been said before?" said Alisa Drake, 19, a sophomore. "What can Biden say to us as Black students going out into the work force?"

If the choice next year was between Mr. Biden and a Republican, she said she would vote for Mr. Biden. But she was lukewarm about it. "I'm not really excited," she said. "I feel like there hasn't been a candidate recently that has just caught my eye, that is just like, 'Wow, they're really about something and interested in helping my generation.'"

The End of Title 42

Border Rule Change Highlights Immigration Debate Among Democrats

By KATIE GLUECK and ZOLAN KANNO-YOUNGS

The lifting of a pandemic-era restriction that turned away many migrants at the U.S. border has ignited fierce debates within the Democratic Party over immigration and border security, exposing raw intraparty divisions over an issue that Democrats often find difficult to navigate.

As U.S. officials brace for a rise in illegal crossings at the southern border after the expiration of the measure, known as Title 42, Democrats are grappling with competing political demands, seeking to address the intensification of a long-running humanitarian crisis and in some cases flexing their border security bona fides.

Mayors, members of Congress and other Democrats have demanded more federal support for their cities, districts and states. Some have sharply rebuked the Biden administration's decision to send troops to the border while applauding the end of the Trump-era border policy but worrying about what will replace it. And several moderate Democrats, by contrast, have criticized the White House's decision to lift Title 42, sometimes pursuing efforts to extend it.

Taken together, the moment underscores the crosscurrents President Biden faces within his party as he slowly begins his re-election campaign and the challenges that await many Democrats in competitive races next year.

"It's a tough issue because it's a complex issue," said Representative Veronica Escobar, a Democrat from El Paso, a border city that declared a state of emergency before the lifting of Title 42.

"For Republicans, it comes down to three words: Build the wall," Ms. Escobar said, faulting Republicans for torpedoing past immigration overhaul proposals. For Democrats, she acknowledged, the messaging is more challenging.

"We want to talk about the multifaceted approach that it takes to address this," she said, adding that sometimes, "we lose people in the process, because everybody is looking for a quick, easy sound bite."

Republicans have often used border security and the arrivals of immigrants to fire up their base, at times deploying racist conspiracy theories. But that strategy has had inconsistent results in recent general elections.

And the White House has blamed Republicans for opposing Mr. Biden's efforts to pass immigration legislation.

But an array of recent polls illustrate the political dangers for Democrats on immigration. A Reuters/Ipsos poll found that 60 percent of Americans disapproved of Mr. Biden's handling of immigration; a similar share of registered voters in a Fox News poll said the same. It's also an issue that alarmed Mr. Biden's lead pollster early in his presidency.

"It starts with a safe and secure border and communicating what you're doing to ensure there's a safe and secure border, while at the same time providing a humanitarian and responsible way to become a United States citizen," said Dan Sena, a former executive director of the House Democratic campaign arm, the first Hispanic person to have held that position.

Both priorities, he said, "from a messaging perspective and from an actual policy perspective, need to move together in unison."

In the days surrounding the lifting of Title 42, some Democrats have sought to strike that balance, arguing that there should be no conflict between supporting border security and demanding compassion for asylum seekers. Title 42, a public health rule, had allowed Border Patrol agents to turn away migrants rapidly, without providing most with the chance to seek asylum — and in the immediate aftermath of the lifting of the order, the scenes of chaos some had worried about did not materialize.

But some moderate Democrats running in competitive races — like Senator Jon Tester of Montana — have argued against lifting Title 42 for now, as they seek to combat Republican attacks that Democrats are weak on border security.

"We can have law and order at the border, and still be respectful of immigrants and their rights and treat them with respect and dignity," said Representative Henry Cuellar, a conservative Texas Democrat who offered a mixed assessment of how the Biden administration had handled the rollback.

Janet Napolitano, a homeland security secretary during the Obama administration, recalled the pressures the White House had faced from various factions of the Democratic Party when increased numbers of Central American children crossed the border in 2014.

"Democrats have a much broader spectrum to cover, from those that are in what I would call the immigration advocacy community, to those who I would consider the pragmatic moderates and everything in between," Ms. Napolitano said.

Ms. Napolitano, who describes herself as a pragmatist on immigration, said she had also confronted these tensions as attorney general and governor of Arizona.

"There are those who believe sincerely and honestly that the United States should not deport people," Ms. Napolitano said. "And there are those who believe that's not realistic nor does it fully respect the sovereignty of the United States."

Progressive Democrats have previously voiced frustration over Mr. Biden's reliance on Title 42, especially given his criticism during the 2020 campaign of former President Donald J. Trump's aggressive approach to migrants, which included separating families. And some suggest that moderates in their party are mistakenly ceding ground to Republicans on the issue.

"We are allowing, in some cases, Republicans to win the conversation about immigration and asylum seekers," said Representative Delia Ramirez, a left-leaning Democrat from Chicago, whose mother crossed the border while pregnant with her.

She urged her party to embrace policies including directing more emergency funding to cities that are absorbing undocumented immigrants, making efforts to keep undocumented families together, and pursuing "flexible and expedited work permits" that could combat labor shortages.

Many of the people arriving at the border want to work, she emphasized.

Latino voters "have said to me over and over, neither party has actually delivered," she said. "We have an opportunity to deliver."

Mr. Biden's plan to replace Title 42 with a so-called transit ban has also angered some of his fellow Democrats. This new rule would make migrants who fail to apply for protection in a nation on their way to the border ineligible for asylum within the United States.

"The transit ban is a problem," said Representative Adriano Espaillat, Democrat of New York. "The traditional asylum-seeking model should not be altered or mutilated with these new policies."

Some mayors of major liberal cities have expressed other concerns about managing the flow of migrants into their cities. Mayor Eric Adams of New York has been strikingly critical of the Biden administration.

And Mayor Muriel Bowser of Washington, D.C., privately conveyed to the White House that she was much more concerned than she had let on about migrants' being dropped off in the city last year, according to a former White House official. A representative for Ms. Bowser did not respond to a request for comment.

"It's a prickly, prickly subject," Mr. Sena said.



VERÓNICA G. CÁRDENAS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Migrants processed through immigration walked into a Catholic Charities humanitarian center in McAllen, Texas, on Friday.

Judge Shortage and Case Backlog Bogs Down Asylum Process

From Page 1

tion as an immigration judge in Chicago in April, said the latest increase in illegal border crossings will strain the understaffed work force as they prioritize migrants who crossed recently.

That will leave some older cases to languish even longer, she said.

"This is a great tragedy because it creates a second class of citizens," Ms. Klein, who started working as an immigration judge in the Clinton administration, said of those immigrants who have been waiting years for an answer to their case. The oldest case Ms. Klein ever adjudicated had been pending in the court for 35 years, she said.

"It's a disgrace," Ms. Klein said. "My perspective, my thought, is that we're not committed in this country to having a just system."

While crowds of migrants continued to seek refuge in the United States after the lifting of Title 42, U.S. officials said the border remained relatively orderly. About 10,000 people crossed the border on Thursday, a historically large number, but that dropped significantly to about 6,200 on Friday.

Tens of thousands of migrants continued to wait in makeshift camps on both sides of the border for a chance to request sanctuary in the United States. The administration remained concerned about overcrowding; Border Patrol held more than 24,000 migrants in custody on Friday, well over the agency's maximum capacity of roughly 20,000 in its detention facilities.

The backlog of immigration cases in the courts grew to one million in 2019 during the Trump administration, but it has increased since then to more than two million cases, according to data collected by the Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse (TRAC) at Syracuse University. The average time it takes to close an immigration case is about four years, according to the database. But some judges say they have cases that have been pending for more than a decade.

Alejandro N. Mayorkas, the homeland security secretary, said this past week that the backlog was a "powerful example of a broken immigration system," as he pleaded for Congress to pass immigration reform legislation.

In his 2023 budget request, Mr. Biden requested funding to hire 200 more judges. Congress only appropriated funds for an additional 100 judges, for a total of 734 positions. The government is still working to fill the slots.

Mimi Tsankov, the president of the National Association of Immigration Judges, said that to truly address the backlog, the Biden administration would need to do more than simply hire more judges. She said that the government should increase funding for better technology and bigger legal teams, and that Congress should reform the nation's immigration laws.

"The immigration courts are failing," said Samuel B. Cole, the judge association's executive vice president. "There needs to be broad systemic change."

The judges essentially form the backbone of the nation's immigration system. The group is under a division of the Justice Department, rather than the judiciary branch, and operates in nearly 70 courts around the nation. Many of the immigration cases are handled remotely, however, and some judges report that the software they use is prone to malfunctioning.

"I don't think the United States has ever treated the adjudication for any immigration benefit as a priority for its immigration policy," said Cristobal Ramón, an immigration consultant who has written for the Migration Policy Institute and the George W. Bush Institute.

The Title 42 border restrictions, enacted by the Trump administration, allowed border agents to rapidly turn away migrants without providing them a chance to apply for asylum, on the grounds that it would prevent the spread of Covid-19.

Now that the restrictions have been lifted, many migrants will once again be able to apply for asylum by securing an appointment through an app or by crossing and convincing an immigration officer that they have a credible fear of persecution at home. Regardless, they will likely wait for years in the United States before getting a resolution in their case.

Typically, after migrants cross the border, they are questioned by an asylum officer to determine if they have a credible fear of persecution at home. After meeting the standard, many are released into the United States and wait years until they are heard in court.

As president, Donald J. Trump derided the American asylum program, saying migrants fleeing poverty and corruption were part of a "scam" and a "hoax." As he sought to curb illegal and legal immigration, Mr. Trump imposed a quota of completing 700 cases a year.

The union representing the nation's immigration judges said that quota came at the expense of due process.

The union filed a labor complaint against Mr. Trump's Justice Department after the agency's executive office for immigration review sent court employees a link to a blog post from a white nationalist website. The post included antisemitic attacks on judges.

Judge Charles Honeyman, who spent 24 years as an immigration judge and retired in 2020, said he came away from his job believing the United States would need to do a better job of deterring fraud while protecting those who would be harmed in their home country.

When handling an asylum case, Mr. Honeyman said he would assess the person's application and examine the state of their home country by reading reports from the State Department and nonprofits. Many of the applicants lacked attorneys; he believes some cases that he denied might have turned out differently if the migrants had had legal representation.

Most asylum applications are not granted, even if a person passes the initial credible-fear screening. Migrants must meet a much higher standard in court to be granted asylum, proving that they were or would be harmed based on their race, religion, nationality or political opinion. Fleeing solely for economic reasons does not make a person eligible for asylum.

Once a case is denied, the person is subject to deportation.

The Border Patrol is already holding thousands of migrants along the border in detention facilities, many of whom will ask for asylum.

"What happens to the cases left behind?" said Mr. Honeyman, who served in Philadelphia. "It seems overwhelmingly impossible to ever reach some kind of equilibrium where enough cases move along and justice is served."

Mr. Biden removed the Trump-era quotas on immigration judges when he came into office and in 2021 instituted a system to try to streamline the processing of asylum cases.

The Biden administration placed about 110,000 cases involving new arrivals on a dedicated docket, with the aim of finishing them within a year. About 83 percent of those cases were closed but just 34 percent of the migrants found representation, according to the Syracuse database. Migrants have the right to an attorney, although the government is not required to pay for legal representation. Only 3,000 of the migrants were granted asylum.

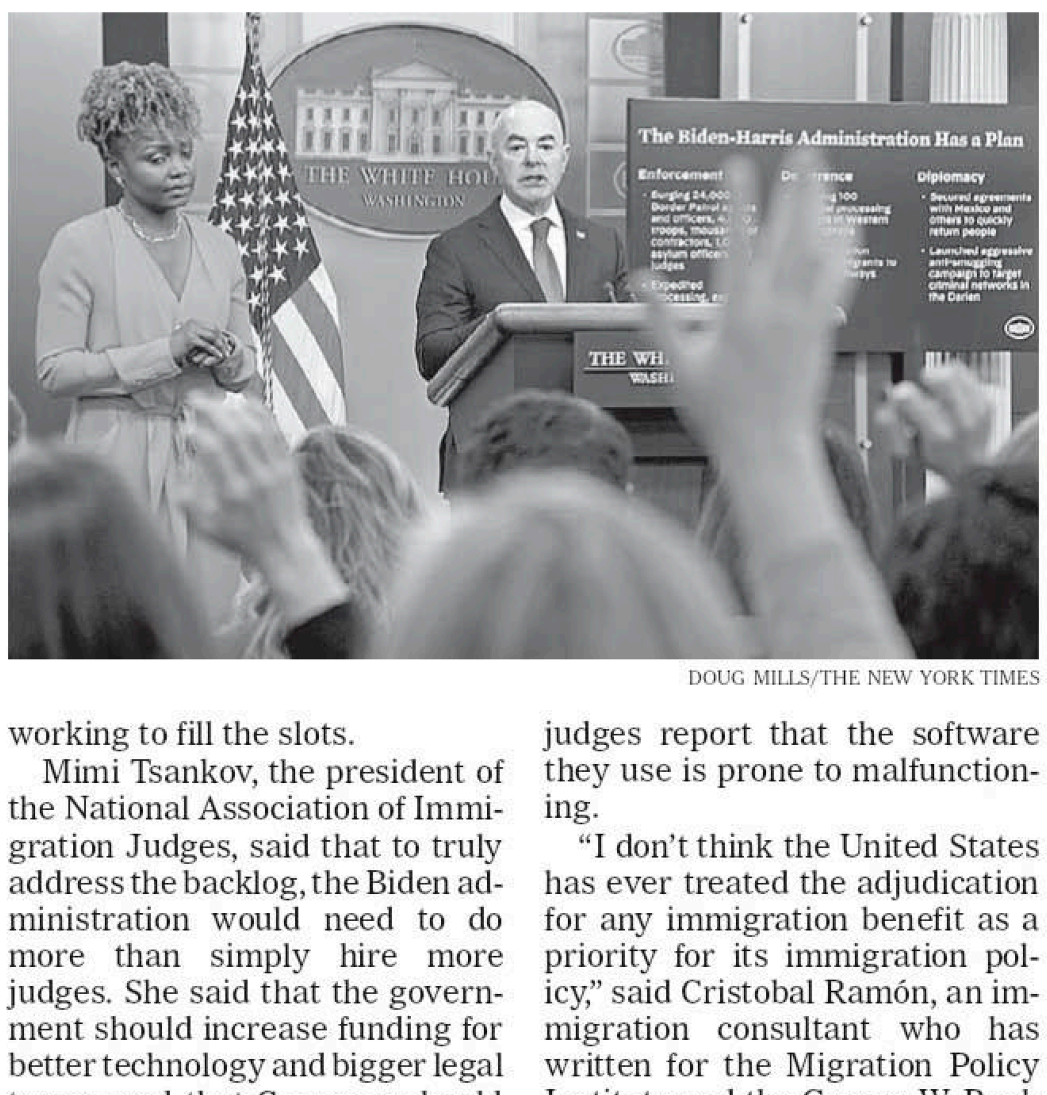
Ms. Klein now fears her former colleagues will once again be forced to hurry through dozens of cases at a time.

"You're being treated like all you're doing is numbers. You're just finishing a certain number of digits per day," Ms. Klein said. "There has been a significant drop-off in the ability to take pride in your work."

Eileen Sullivan contributed reporting.



TAYLOR GLASCOCK FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES



DOUG MILLS/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Eliza C. Klein, a retired immigration judge, above, said the asylum backlog "creates a second class of citizens," while Alejandro N. Mayorkas, the homeland security secretary, left, said it was a powerful example of a "broken" system.

Corrections

INTERNATIONAL

An article on Friday about Turkey's presidential election gave an incorrect title for Victor Orban of Hungary. He is the prime minister, not the president.

ARTS

A music review on Thursday about the Helsinki Philharmonic Orchestra included an outdated affiliation for Susanna Mälkki. She was the principal guest conductor of the Los Angeles Philharmonic until 2022, and does not hold the position currently.

ARTS & LEISURE

An article this weekend on Page 14 about critics' picks of Tony-worthy theater performances misidentifies the actress chosen by one of our critics as a performer who should have been nominated for best actress for her performance in "Oresteia." It was Anastasia Hille, not Lia Williams.

MAGAZINE

An article on May 7 about Senator Kyrsten Sinema inaccurately described the confirmation vote for Judge Roopali Desai. It is not the case that she was confirmed with more bipartisan support than any federal judicial nominee in over 20 years.

An article on May 7 on Page 30 about the novelist Annie Ernaux's shocking work misspelled Ernaux's maiden name. It is Duchesne, not Duschene.

T MAGAZINE: TRAVEL

An article on Page 49 about the artist Pablo Barba misidentifies the birds depicted in one of his paintings. They are sea gulls, not doves.

An article on Page 58 about sleep art misidentifies the museum personnel who asked the artist Heather Agyepong to leave the "Black Power Naps" installation at MoMA. It was the museum's staff, not its security.

Errors are corrected during the press run whenever possible, so some errors noted here may not have appeared in all editions.

Contact the Newsroom
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Check out the colorful issues of T: The Times Style Magazine

The End of Title 42

Asylum Debate Snarls Deal on Immigration

By KAROUN DEMIRJIAN

WASHINGTON — A crush of asylum claims at the U.S.-Mexico border is complicating an already intractable immigration debate on Capitol Hill, pulling the two parties further apart and threatening to undermine what some lawmakers have viewed as the best hope in a decade for Congress to forge a comprehensive immigration deal.

For decades, bipartisan discussions on such a compromise focused on pairing beefed-up border security with a pathway to legalization for undocumented immigrants and expanded legal pathways to entry. But in recent years, an explosion in the number of migrants asking for asylum — a protected status for those fearing persecution in their home country — has scrambled the equation, exposing deep political and moral divisions.

The shift helps explain why talks on Capitol Hill to find a consensus on a comprehensive immigration overhaul have sputtered, despite lawmakers' hope that the expiration last week of Title 42 — a pandemic-era policy that had let authorities swiftly expel migrants — would force Congress to act.

"It's changed," Senator Chris Coons, Democrat of Delaware, said of the immigration overhaul debate. "We managed to get to an agreement that put a significant amount of money into border security last time. Making similar progress on asylum is very, very different, because it's a values issue."

Mr. Coons is one of a group of about eight Republican and Democratic senators who have been

A bipartisan group has been talking about a compromise.

privately talking for months about an immigration compromise, but have splintered in recent days over how to handle asylum.

Asylum claims were intended to be reserved for people fearing persecution on the basis of their race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership in a social group to seek protection on U.S. soil. But in recent years, they have increasingly become a go-to tactic for migrants with no other options to enter the United States, and who know it could take years before their cases are heard and — if unfounded — rejected.

Pending asylum claims before the immigration courts have grown more than sevenfold over the last decade, according to data analyzed by the Transactional Records Access Clearinghouse at Syracuse University, forcing the issue into the center of the congressional debate.

In recent months, Republicans and Democrats have embraced radically different positions on how to address abuses of the asylum system.

Republicans have proposed steps to restrict access across the board, pushing legislation through the House last week that would require migrants claiming a credible fear of persecution to wait outside the United States for their cases to be heard in court. They only narrowly stopped short of approving language that would have shut down the asylum system if the United States ran out of detention beds.

Democrats have largely gone in the other direction, embracing a right to seek asylum protections as intrinsic to the character of the United States and calling for expanding other pathways to legal immigration to alleviate the strain.

Bipartisan talks in the Senate about an immigration overhaul hit a snag recently over the most high-profile proposal to emerge from the discussions: a proposal by Senators Kyrsten Sinema, independent of Arizona, and Thom Tillis, Republican of North Carolina, to give the Biden administration a two-year authority to speedily expel migrants trying to cross the border, but with a carve out for asylum claims that did not exist under Title 42.

None of the Democrats from the group have supported the legislation, while some of the Republicans also backed away, claiming the bill did not do enough to dissuade fraudulent asylum claims.

Ms. Sinema and Mr. Tillis have said that they saw their proposal — which has earned some support from Republicans and moderate Democrats in the Senate and House — as a potential centerpiece for a broader bill that would include border security measures and a pathway to citizenship for unauthorized migrants brought to the United States as children.

During the last Congress, they attempted to rally support around a similar blueprint, but ran out of time to complete their work. Mr. Tillis and others in bipartisan group estimated that they were still weeks away from presenting anything resembling a comprehensive proposal.

Experts said the lag could further complicate efforts to strike a deal, pointing out that the situation at the border, particularly around the asylum issue, is changing faster than lawmakers drafting bills are responding to it.

"At the end of the last Congress, they actually had the most balanced, most bipartisan support in the outline that they circulated," said Jennie Murray, the president and chief executive of the National Immigration Forum, a pro-immigration group. She noted that at the time, what seemed like proactive provisions — such as a bid to curb asylum claims by extending the expulsion authority of Title 42 — would now be seen by some Democrats as an unacceptable retrenchment.

"We're just in a completely different context," she added.

As the situation at the border changes, the parties are moving further into opposite corners. Last week, the administration rolled out a new set of rules to address an expected spike in asylum claims after Title 42's demise, despite calls from several leading Democrats, including Representative Jerrold Nadler of New York, the top Democrat on the House Judiciary Committee, to reconsider.

Mr. Nadler responded by joining the rest of the Democrats in New York's congressional delegation, including Representative Hakeem Jeffries, the minority leader, and Senator Chuck Schumer, the majority leader, in appealing to President Biden in a letter "to expand the issuance of parole to asylum seekers," by eliminating a 150-day waiting period for applicants to be allowed to work.

Republicans, by contrast, have accused the administration of holding up progress in Congress by refusing to take more restrictive steps at the border.

"My advice to the administration is to change your asylum policies," said Senator Lindsey Graham, Republican of South Carolina, a key negotiator in past efforts to write comprehensive immigration bills. "Stop the flow. If you can control the flow, regain control of the border, then you have a chance to talk about what we've been talking about for 15 years. Without that, you're probably going nowhere."

Few see an easy way out of the impasse, especially as Washington gears up for a presidential election that could pit Mr. Biden against former President Donald J. Trump, whose restrictive immigration policies many Republicans are trying to revive.

"This is about the presidential election in 2024," said Representative Lou Correa, Democrat of California. "I think it's going to be very difficult under Biden's first term to actually move in that direction."



KENNY HOLSTON/THE NEW YORK TIMES

House Republicans, led by Speaker Kevin McCarthy, pushed through legislation requiring migrants to wait outside the U.S.

Subway Killing Fuels Scrutiny of Police's Presence

By ANA LEY and CHELSIA ROSE MARCIUS

The push to saturate New York City's subway with police officers last year was supposed to make the system feel safer after a sequence of shocking crimes rattled commuters and discouraged many from using public transit.

Months later, officials say the surge in police presence has yielded some favorable results: Ridership is rising and major crimes are dropping since the initiative intensified in October.

But after a passenger choked a homeless man to death on the subway nearly two weeks ago, a familiar debate has emerged over whether more police officers are the solution to subway violence, especially when they confront people who are mentally ill.

The homeless man, Jordan Neely, 30, was shouting at riders in a train car when another man, Daniel Penny, 24, placed him in a chokehold and killed him. The killing has stirred outrage and divided city leaders and the public. Mayor Eric Adams has since been criticized not just for his reaction to Mr. Neely's death, but also for the aggressiveness with which he has deployed law enforcement and targeted homeless people in the subway.

In addition to the political debate over using the police to help with societal problems like mental illness and homelessness, there is the question of whether the mayor's strategy is working, especially in a vast and dynamic system that officers cannot possibly monitor in its entirety.

Have the mayor's efforts reduced crime and made New Yorkers feel safer, as Mr. Adams and his supporters argue? Or have they heightened fears and even endangered homeless people by reinforcing riders' anxieties about mentally ill people, as some of his critics have said — setting the stage for encounters like the one between Mr. Neely and Mr. Penny?

On Wednesday, Mr. Adams said in a speech, partly in response to those criticisms, that while he didn't control the legal process, "one thing we can say for sure: Jordan Neely did not deserve to die."

Like other large American cities, New York City has had to contend with a confluence of problems exacerbated by the pandemic — including rises in housing prices and homelessness, in unemployment and crime, and in mental health issues — and intensifying political debates over how to solve them.

After Mr. Adams took office, he announced plans to deploy a wave of police officers across the system. That same month, many subway users were disturbed by the death of Michelle Go, who was shoved in front of an R train by a homeless man who the police said had a history of crime and mental illness.

The following month, the mayor instructed officers to remove homeless people from the system under a newly implemented zero-tolerance policy for people sleeping across train seats or in stations or otherwise violating the subway's often flouted rules of conduct.

Hurubie Meko and Maria Cramer contributed reporting.



ANDREW SENG FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Mayor Eric Adams's strategy to deploy more police officers in the subway has come under fire.

In October, after a continued rise in violence in the subway, the state said it would help the city pay for an additional 1,200 overtime shifts per day for police officers to watch over the system.

"We can tell New Yorkers all the time that we have decreased crimes in certain areas, but if New Yorkers don't feel safe, we are failing," Mr. Adams said at the time, adding, "That's why the omnipresence of police officers and the removal of those who are dealing with mental health issues is crucial to our second phase of this important plan."

In recent months, officers on the subways have detained significantly more people for breaking the law. Police statistics show there were about 3,000 arrests in the transit system from January through March of this year, compared with 2,000 arrests during the same period in 2022.

A Police Department representative said that transit officers had conducted about 515,000 train and subway inspections so far this year, putting them on track to exceed the roughly 750,000 inspections conducted during the first 10 months of last year.

"The N.Y.P.D. constantly evaluates emerging crime trends and redeploys personnel based on the trends observed," the representative said, noting that "the added numbers of station inspections and train runs create an omnipresence that riders, at all hours, can see and feel as they make their way to school, work or home."

Even after the rate of crime increased during the pandemic, the chances that someone might be a victim of a violent crime while riding the subway remained incredibly remote, according to a New York Times analysis of M.T.A. and police statistics.

So far this year, major felony crimes have decreased compared with the same time period last year, though it is too soon to know for certain whether that dip is statistically significant.

There were 10 murders in the system in 2022, compared with an average of two per year in the five years before the pandemic began. In 2023, the most recently available statistics show that there has been one murder through March.

Most of the roughly 10,000 calls for aid in the transit system that the police have responded to this year have been about homeless people in need of help, according to a Police Department spokesman. The majority of people in those cases accepted the support and agreed to go to a homeless shelter. Another 1,200 needed medical care and were taken to a hospital.

The Police Department did not respond to questions about how many officers, on average, work in the system on a given day, or how many arrests or outreach efforts involved homeless or mentally ill people and how those numbers compared with years past.

Since Mr. Adams announced his first push early last year to remove homeless people from the subway system, roughly 4,600 New Yorkers experiencing homelessness in the transit system have checked in to a shelter, according to city officials. As of this past week, about 1,300 of them remained in shelters.

About 3,000 arrests in the transit system this year through March.

The effort has also been criticized for violating the rights of homeless people, especially after the mayor urged police officers and other responders last year to take people with severe untreated mental illnesses to hospitals, against their will if necessary.

Encounters between the police and severely mentally ill people can end in tragedy when officers are not well suited to deal with someone behaving erratically, in part because people in a state of psychosis often cannot follow commands.

That is why many advocates, experts and elected officials have urged the city to focus instead on solutions that are meant to help people cope with mental illness before they reach a crisis.

"The mayor's insistence on controlling those in need, instead of taking on the city's housing crisis or lack of access to health care only fuels stigma against homeless New Yorkers and those living with mental illness," Donna Lieberman, the executive director for the New York Civil Liberties Union, said in a statement.

"Arrest and forced hospitalization do nothing to address the root drivers of homelessness or the chronic lack of access to mental health care."

On Wednesday, the mayor gave a speech about Mr. Neely's death, saying that he had called for reforms in the way mental illness is addressed "from the very beginning of this administration."

The mayor has pushed forward a number of other initiatives to help mentally ill New Yorkers that do not involve the police, including programs to connect people to community-based treatment and to send mental health professionals and paramedics in response to 911 calls that involve people in mental distress.

The city is also expanding the number of "intensive mobile treatment" teams that respond to people with mental illness or substance abuse issues living in shelters, streets and subways and that offer them a range of services.

The teams typically do not coerce clients to accept care or shelter, but spend weeks and often months trying to connect them with help. They will soon serve nearly 1,000 New Yorkers with some of the greatest needs.

And last October, the state said it would set up two new units at psychiatric centers, including 50 inpatient beds, to take in people with serious mental illnesses.

After Mr. Neely's killing, many New Yorkers have called for more investments like these to help some of the city's most vulnerable people, rather than more law enforcement.

"We understand our current times have created a heightened sense of fear (sometimes reasonable, sometimes not)," Lennon Edwards and Donte Mills, lawyers for Mr. Neely's family, said in a statement last week.

But, they said, "Passengers are not supposed to die on the floor of our subways."

Top Schools Are Familiar in Rankings That Rankle

By STEPHANIE SAUL

U.S. News & World Report finally released its annual rankings of top law and medical schools on Thursday, after boycotts by those institutions, disputes over methodology, and a delay of weeks.

A few law schools shuffled positions, but the ones at the top of the new list were familiar — Stanford, Yale, Chicago, Duke, Harvard and New York University.

Yale, which was the first to boycott, retained its No. 1 position, though in a tie this year with Stanford. Columbia, which also participated in the boycott, dropped to eighth place from fourth.

There were some big shifts among the lower ranks, as a result of a new methodology. Wake Forest in North Carolina jumped 15 spots to be tied at No. 22, from No. 37 last year. Texas Tech and Marquette University both moved up 34 points and are tied for No. 71.

Among medical schools, most that were in the top 10 list for research last year remained there in 2023-24.

The top three medical schools are Harvard, Johns Hopkins and the University of Pennsylvania. Joining the top 10: Vanderbilt, Weill Cornell and Washington University in St. Louis.

New York University dropped to No. 10 from No. 2 last year.

Background: Many top schools have boycotted U.S. News.

After criticizing U.S. News's rankings for years, many elite law and medical schools decided to boycott the 2023-24 rankings by refusing to hand over data, saying that the rankings were unreliable and unfair, skewing education priorities.



CHRISTOPHER CAPOZZIELLO FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Yale Law School, which led the boycott of the U.S. News rankings, is at the top again in 2023, though tied with Stanford.

Yale Law School said that the U.S. News methodology did not give enough weight to programs "that support public interest careers, champion need-based aid, and welcome working-class students into the profession." As a result, Yale argued, the rankings effectively penalized law schools that emphasize that work, and deterred others from focusing on that work.

Faced with several dozen schools declining to participate, U.S. News went on a listening tour last year to develop a new methodology. For law schools, fully 58 percent of a school's ranking is now based on outcomes — how many graduating students pass the bar and get jobs — a substantial increase from prior years.

The new ranking of medical schools for research also used new methodology, and included an evaluation of faculty resources, the academic achievements of entering students and research productivity.

U.S. News said that for the law and medical schools that declined to provide data, it filled in the blanks using publicly available information.

Despite the overhaul, an early preview of the 2023-24 rankings, released on April 21, ran into another wave of criticism, prompting a delay in the release of the final list.

Why It Matters: The rankings influence students and employers.

Many organizations rank colleges and universities, but the U.S. News rankings are probably the most widely followed. Students across the country use the rankings to help them choose schools, and employers consider the rankings when they hire graduates.

Those factors make the rankings especially important for many lesser-known schools. They invest time and money in improving their showing on the metrics that U.S. News values — for instance, admissions test scores, faculty-to-student ratios, class sizes and post-graduation employment.

What's Next: The new rankings are unlikely to placate critics.

With some schools experiencing turbulent swings in their ratings from year to year, critics have questioned whether the U.S. News list has any real meaning.

In a message posted on his school's website, Stephen C. Payne, dean of the Columbus School of Law at Catholic University of America, said the new methodology penalized his school — which fell to No. 122 from No. 94 — partly by giving more weight to the number of graduates who pass the bar examination in their first try.

"The dramatic changes in the calculations of this year's rankings have produced some wild swing and strange results," Mr. Payne wrote, adding that "the specific spot of a given school in the rankings seems to provide little useful information to prospective students."

‘I’m trying to show how you can bring conservatives and independents along to be on the same page.’
REPRESENTATIVE NANCY MACE, Republican of South Carolina.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY SEAN RAYFORD FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Above, Ms. Mace with constituents at a coffee shop in Summerville, S.C. Her district includes Charleston and the Lowcountry along South Carolina’s coast, below.

Finding Her Place Among Hard-Right House Republicans

By ANNIE KARNI



SUMMERVILLE, S.C. — It was just after Representative Nancy Mace, Republican of South Carolina, had fired off a blunt text to the No. 3 House G.O.P. leader — featuring two f-bombs and four demands that needed to be met to gain her vote for the party’s debt limit plan — that she experienced a momentary flash of dread.

“Now I’ll look like a flip-flopper,” Ms. Mace worried aloud.

Speaker Kevin McCarthy was planning within hours to hold a vote on his proposal to lift the debt ceiling for a year in exchange for spending cuts and policy changes, and Ms. Mace had just published an op-ed declaring herself a hard no. Now the second-term congresswoman from a swing district, who had already established something of a reputation for publicly breaking with her party but ultimately falling in line behind its policies, was privately negotiating her way to yes.

Ms. Mace would, in fact, vote for the bill after meeting with Mr. McCarthy and extracting several promises from him, including to hold future votes on two of her top priorities: addressing gun violence and women’s issues related to contraceptives and adoption. She anticipated criticism for the turnabout, but consoled herself with the fact that she had leveraged her vote to force her party to take on issues she cared about.

“This is a way I can drive the debate,” she said as she walked back to her office. “It’s a way of using my position to push those issues.”

It was a typical day for Ms. Mace, 45, who represents Charleston and the Lowcountry along South Carolina’s coast, and whose political profile — she is a fiscal conservative but leans toward the center on some social issues — puts her at odds with the hard-right Republicans who now dominate the House.

Ms. Mace, who last year beat a Trump-backed candidate in a primary, is constantly pivoting as she figures out how to survive and play a meaningful role as a mainstream Republican in today’s MAGA-heavy House G.O.P., where extreme members of the party have greater power than ever.

She often styles herself as a maverick independent in the mold of Senator Joe Manchin III, the West Virginia Democrat whose tendency to buck his party has earned him outsize power in the closely divided chamber — and the political fame that goes with it. But she has built the voting record of a mostly reliable Republican foot soldier, even as she publicly criticizes her own party and racks up television hits and social media clicks. And Ms. Mace — savvy and irreverent — has become fluent in the art of the political troll, finding ways to signal to the MAGA base that she hasn’t forsaken it.

She has repeatedly, and baselessly, accused the Biden family of being involved in “prostitution rings.”

Above all, Ms. Mace, a high school dropout and former Waffle House waitress who went on to become the first woman to graduate from the Citadel, is hyper-aware of how she is perceived and of her precarious place in her party.

During Mr. McCarthy’s prolonged fight for this job, Ms. Mace and Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene — who have publicly feuded — huddled together on the House floor chatting about how to secure his victory. When a male lawmaker noticed them and said their joint effort was something Republicans would like to see more of, Ms. Mace dryly disagreed.

“Who do you think you’re kidding?” she said. “The only thing people want to see of me and Marjorie is if we’re wrestling in Jell-O.”

Behind all the tacking back and forth, Ms. Mace insisted, a bigger project is at work. She said she was trying to create a model for a “reasonable” and re-electable Republican in a purple district, and demonstrating that there was a path to winning back moderate and independent voters.

“I’m trying to show how you can bring conservatives and independents along to be on the same page,” she said. “Americans want us to work together. That’s not what’s happening. There’s very little that we’ve done that’s going to get across the finish line to Biden’s desk to sign.”

Ms. Mace has yet to prove that it’s possible.

The debt ceiling vote was the third time in four months that Ms. Mace had publicly threatened to break with her party on an issue where her vote was critical, before ultimately falling in line. In January, Ms. Mace had threatened to oppose the House rules package for the new Republican majority, but ended up supporting it. She had said she would oppose removing Representative Ilhan Omar, Democrat of Minnesota, from the Foreign Affairs Committee, but reversed course.

In both instances, she insisted that she had pried promises from Mr. McCarthy in exchange for her support, such as a vow to institute due process for committee removals in the future. She is aware of the danger of becoming the congresswoman who cried wolf.

“Every handshake I’ve taken with Kevin has been legit,” she said of the speaker. “I haven’t gotten rolled. If I were to get rolled, I’d go nuclear. I’m just trying to move the ball in the right direction — that’s what matters to me.”

Some of her constituents view her tactics in a less flattering light.



Ms. Mace, who styles herself as a maverick, has said Republicans risk losing the House if they don’t temper their most extreme stances on abortion and guns.

“You live around Nancy long enough, she will talk about being bipartisan and reaching across the aisle and working together until the cows come home,” said David Rubin, a Democrat and a retiree who moved to the district six years ago and attended a “coffee with your congresswoman” event with Ms. Mace earlier this month in Summerville. “When it comes down to the actual votes, she always sticks with the party.”

A Strategy to ‘Shut Up’

Ms. Mace voted to certify the 2020 election and vociferously condemned President Donald J. Trump after the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol, but she did not join the small group of Republicans who supported his impeachment. These days, she avoids the subject of Mr. Trump, the front-runner for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination, at all costs.

“I’ll support the nominee — that’s what I say,” she said while talking on the phone in her car between events in her district. “And then I shut up.”

That silence is a deliberate contrast to former Representative Liz Cheney of Wyoming, another Republican who tried to move her party — and failed miserably, ultimately losing her seat because she refused to stay quiet about her unrelenting opposition to Mr. Trump and his election lies. In fact, Ms. Mace ultimately joined Republicans in voting to oust Ms. Cheney from her leadership post.

Still, as Ms. Cheney did in her final days in Congress, Ms. Mace regularly warns her party that it is at risk of losing its way. She argues that Republicans will lose control of the House if they fail to temper their most extreme stances on abortion and guns.

“Signing a six-week ban that puts women who are victims of rape and girls who are victims of incest in a hard spot isn’t the way to change hearts and minds,” Ms. Mace said last month on CBS’s “Face The Nation,” responding to a new six-week abortion ban instituted by Gov. Ron DeSantis of Florida. “It’s not compassionate.”

On guns, she supports improved alert systems and stronger background checks.

But Ms. Mace has also co-sponsored legislation that would ban transgender women and girls from participating in athletic programs designated for women. On fiscal issues, she is aligned with the hard-right Freedom Caucus.

And while she criticized Republicans for choosing an abortion-related bill as one of their first acts in the majority, saying it would hurt the party and alienate many of her constituents, she voted for the legislation, which could subject doctors who perform abortions to criminal penalties.

Representative Ro Khanna, Democrat of California, who serves with Ms. Mace on the Oversight Committee, said he found her effective in trying to find common ground while working within the constraints of her party.

“She doesn’t do things that would marginalize her and make her completely ineffective in her party,” Mr. Khanna said. “There’s only so much she can do to push the party. If the Republican conference had everyone of Nancy Mace’s temperament and ideology, we’d be in a much better place in our country.”

Yet Ms. Mace’s approach comes with political risks.

In 2020, she won election to Congress by narrowly defeating a Democrat. Last year, she won by 14 points, after her district was redrawn to make the electorate more conservative. But the seat could shift again in 2024; federal judges ordered South Carolina to redraw its congressional maps after ruling that the lines split Black neighborhoods and diluted their votes in the last election.

Conservative voters in her district are increasingly skeptical of Ms. Mace.

“Sometimes I think she speaks out, particularly on the abortion thing, she needs to let that go,” said Paula Arrington, a retiree who attended an event with Ms. Mace in her district earlier this month and who is of no relation to Ms. Mace’s former Trump-backed challenger, Katie Arrington. “We’re real conservatives and we support the Republican Party.”

Incurring Trump’s Wrath

Over a skinny margarita and tacos at a waterside restaurant in Mount Pleasant near her district office, Ms. Mace credited Mr. Trump with fueling her political rise, but unlike with other Republicans, it was his wrath — not his backing — that made the difference.

She worked for Mr. Trump’s 2016 campaign, but after she broke sharply with him after the Jan. 6 attack, the former president called her “nasty” and “disloyal.” He supported her opponent in last year’s Republican primary, in which he savaged Ms. Mace for fighting with her own party and said she was “despised by almost everyone.”

“He defined me as an independent voice in a way that I couldn’t have,” she said. “I would not have won by 14 points had Donald Trump not come after me, and had I not been outspoken when Roe v. Wade was overturned.”

Ms. Mace, who sold commercial real estate before being elected to the statehouse and then to Congress, is obsessed with her work and has huge ambitions.

She only halfheartedly denies that she’s thinking about a run for Senate at some point — “La la la la la,” she said, putting her fingers in her ears, when asked about running for a statewide office — while her aides half-jokingly pass along an article that floats her as a potential presidential running mate to former Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey.

In a party shaped by extremists who view the middle ground with disdain, the day-to-day can be pretty “lonely,” she said, noting that she has few friends on Capitol Hill. She got a dog during the pandemic, a Havanese named Liberty, and started carrying a gun at all times when threats against her increased after she voted to certify the election. She said that only “emboldens me,” as does the fact that she’s not the popular girl at the lunch table. She calls herself “a caucus of one.”

Her hardened exterior is in part the result of personal trauma. She was molested at a swimming pool when she was 14 and said that for years she blamed herself, because she had been wearing a two-piece bathing suit. She was raped when she was 16, leading her to drop out of high school.

“I was in a really bad situation for a long time,” she said. She was on Prozac and then self-medicated with marijuana, which she credits with reducing her anxiety and saving her life.

“You carry it for a lifetime,” she said. “When I want to punch a bully in the face, it’s all still there. I’ll bring a gun to a knife fight, and that’s overkill. It’s still there.”

Yet Ms. Mace is anything but aloof. As she took meetings across her district on a recent Wednesday, she shared personal details, joking with a reporter about doing the “walk of shame” home from her fiancé’s house and talking openly about her struggle with long Covid.

“I overshare because I do want to connect with people on a personal level,” she said, explaining why she had told several groups throughout the day that she had gained the “freshman 15” during her first term in Congress and subsequently cut out bread. “Everyone struggles with their weight.”

Ms. Mace, who has two teenage children, said she does not read books or have any hobbies. She rarely takes vacations. She is divorced and engaged to be married to an entrepreneur, but has set no wedding date.

The grind is worth it, she said, if she can shift her party even a touch.

“The message matters,” Ms. Mace said. “I’m trying to move the national narrative.”

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THE STRUGGLE TO SAVE ABDUL



Abdul Curry, 64, after a night with little sleep on a street corner in San Diego. His longtime partner died in November of a suspected fentanyl overdose.

As a record number of people die on America's streets, 'the homeless mayor of San Diego' fights for his life.

From Page 1

said, as she draped a blanket over his shoulders. "It's been raining for days."

He shrugged. "My teeth are clattering like piano keys, but we've been through worse," he said.

Abdul had come to rely on their weekly visits as his only semblance of stability during a time in which living on the street in San Diego had become what he called "a daily game of Russian roulette." His longtime partner, Phasia McKee, had died in November of a suspected fentanyl overdose at 46 years old. Three of his friends had been run over and killed in their tents by an intoxicated driver who swerved onto the sidewalk. In the last year, Abdul had revived six people after fentanyl overdoses by administering CPR and the nasal spray naloxone. He had also overdosed five times himself, including once a few days earlier, when he collapsed on the sidewalk, gashed open his forehead, suffered a minor stroke and spent 36 hours in the emergency room before being released back to the street.

"How's your recovery going?" Laine asked.

"I've got my miracle drug," he said, holding up a small container of olive oil, pouring some onto his hands and massaging it into his skin.

"What about your medications?"

"They're either lost, stolen or in here somewhere," he said, as he began to sift through a grocery cart, a suitcase and two plastic bins that contained all his belongings. Laine knelt next to him to check his vitals. He had a slight fever, and his blood pressure was dangerously high. She gave him aspirin and took out her computer to add another line to his medical chart, which told the story of a life outside: chronic fatigue, malnourishment, alcoholism, blurred vision, schizoaffective disorder, depression, anxiety, paranoia.

For the past several weeks, Laine's increasing concern about Abdul's health had extended beyond her workdays with the nonprofit group Healthcare in Action and into her evenings, until she sometimes picked up her son at day care and drove 45 minutes back into San Diego just to make sure Abdul was still there. The average age of death for people who were homeless in San Diego was less than 50, and Abdul was about to turn 64.

"I'm worried something bad could happen to you at any moment," Laine said.

"From Him we come, and to Him we return," Abdul said, repeating one of his favorite phrases in Arabic from the Quran.

"But not yet, OK?" Laine said.

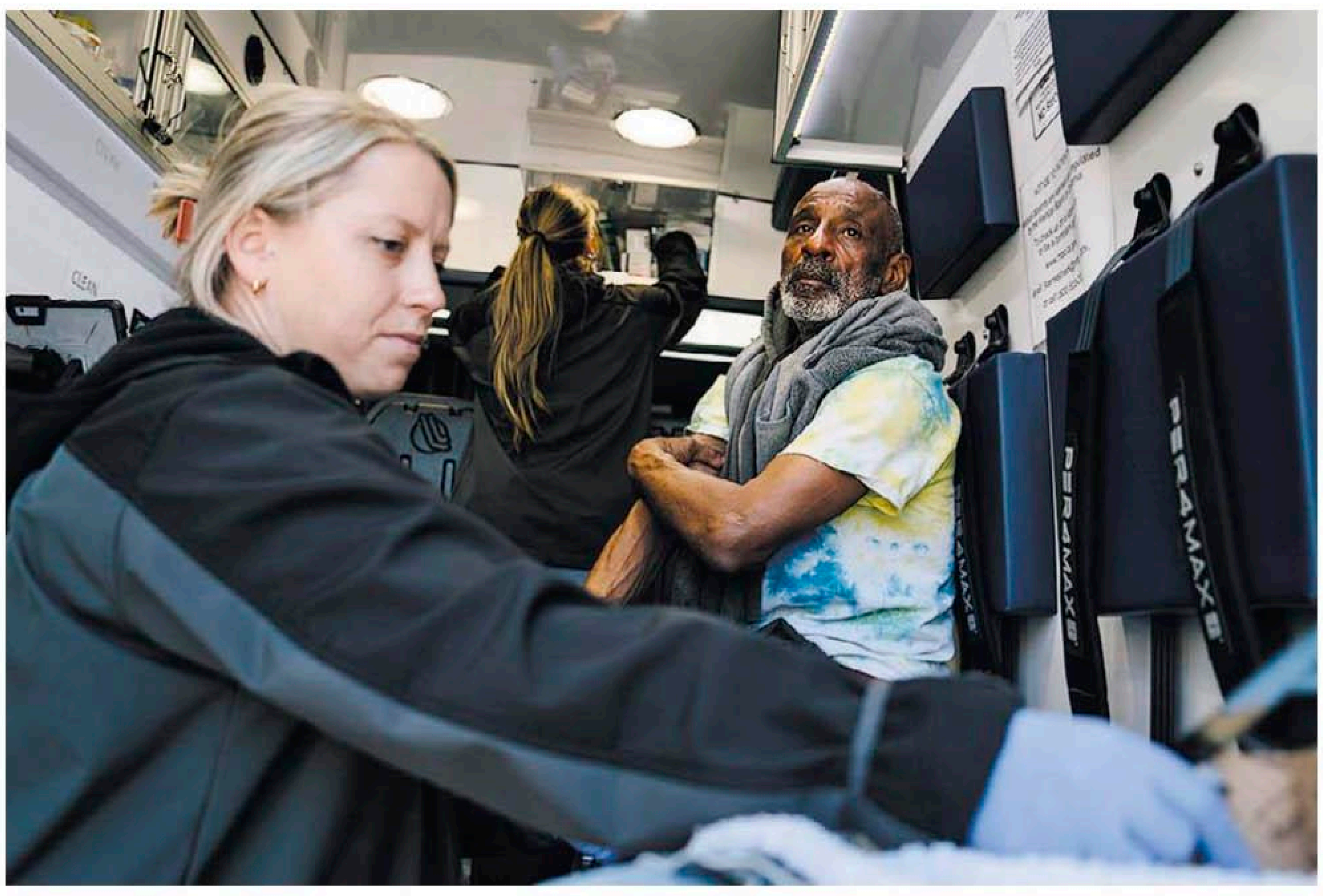
"Not yet," he agreed.

ABDUL HAD SPENT the last several years bouncing between temporary apartments and being forced by the police to move his sleeping bag from one sidewalk to the next, until the closest thing he had left to permanent shelter was a parking garage on a hill overlooking downtown. The concrete entrance was 15 feet wide and 20 feet deep. He squeezed against the wall every few minutes as cars drove in to park for $45 a day. A sign at the entryway read: "Warning! Breathing the air in this garage can expose you to chemicals which are known to cause cancer and other harm. Do not stay longer than necessary."

Abdul had managed to stay off and on for 20 months by making himself useful and by charming the private security guards whose job it was to keep the garage clear. He washed and detailed customers' cars and compulsively cleaned litter off the nearby streets with a broom and a dust pan. He greeted dozens of office workers by name each morning and serenaded them on their way to work. "The homeless mayor of

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Photographs by ERIN SCHAFF/The New York Times



Abdul in a medical van as Laine Goettsch, foreground, and Teagan Flint organized supplies during his medical appointment.



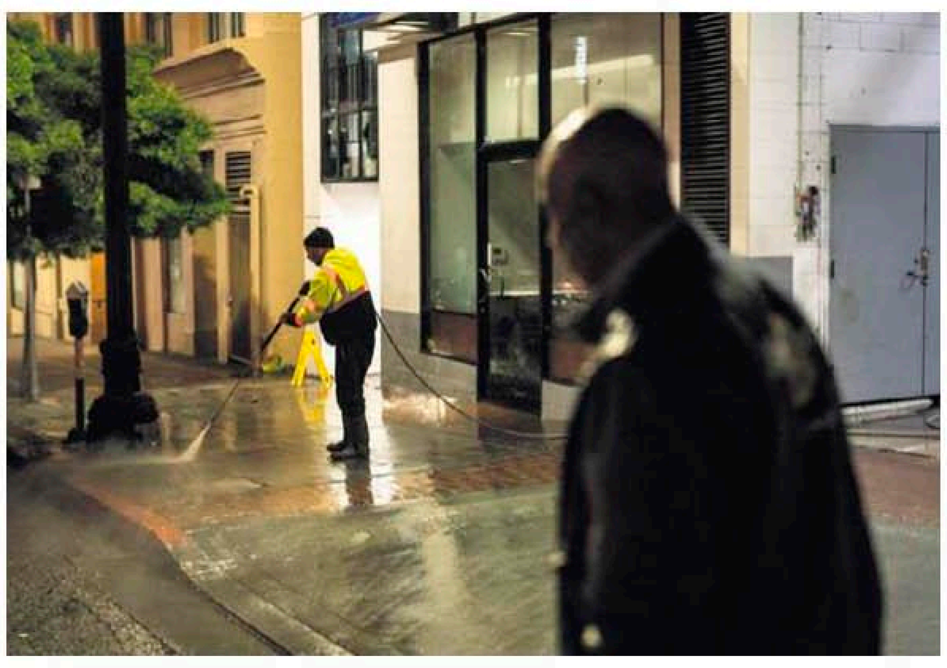
Abdul talked with his friend Michelle Benitez as he prepared to move his belongings from his spot in a parking garage in San Diego.



The police frequently ask those sleeping on the sidewalk to move to a different street corner.



Workers hauling tents from a homeless encampment in San Diego into a trash truck.



A cleaner washing the sidewalk soaked some of Abdul's belongings. "To them, it's nothing," he said.

‘THIS PLACE IS QUICKSAND’

The average age of death for people who were homeless in San Diego was less than 50, and Abdul was about to turn 64.

From Preceding Page

San Diego,” some people called him.

But at night the nearby offices emptied out, the parking garage went dark, and the only people left on the block were the ones with nowhere else to go. A half-dozen people who lived on the street dragged over their belongings to join Abdul in the garage, where they could stay dry under the overhang and look out for one another until daybreak.

“I can’t feel my damn feet,” Eric Thompson, 57, said as he sat down on a piece of cardboard near the back of the garage and settled in for another long night during San Diego’s wettest spring in decades. The temperature dropped to 52 degrees, and it started raining again.

“You have to get your blood moving in this cold,” Abdul said. “Start wiggling your toes.”

“I’m trying, but they don’t move,” Eric said. His jeans were soaked, and a decade of alcoholism had left him with poor circulation and chronic numbness in his arms and legs.

“All right, I got you,” Abdul said, as he unlaced Eric’s shoes and started to warm his feet in his hands. Abdul had moved to California two decades earlier to take care of his mother and his brother while they were dying of cancer, and he had nursed his own grief with vodka and heroin until he went to jail on a drug offense, lost his refurbishing business and started a new life on the street, changing his name from Howard to Abdul. He was still a caretaker by nature, testing the safety of his friends’ drugs with fentanyl test strips, bandaging their spider bites and staying awake for most of the night to watch over people who moved between the nearby shelters and the garage. There was Michelle Benitez, 56, who had an abusive ex-boyfriend and a Little League baseball bat she carried for protection; and Pamela Thomas, 51, a former fentanyl addict who collected pieces of burned tinfoil off the sidewalk and folded them into ornate frogs, butterflies and boats that she wore as jewelry; and Henrietta Maes, 38, who was often carrying a portable gas canister and lighting up something to smoke in a pipe, including now, as a private security guard walked by on patrol.

“No way!” the guard shouted. “You’re going to burn this place down. This is private property. Get out.”

Abdul snatched away Henrietta’s pipe and apologized. “You’re right,” he said. “That one’s on us. No more smoking. I give you my word.”

“Good, but you still have to get out,” the security guard said.

“Come on, man,” Abdul pleaded. “It’s raining. It’s cold. How many cigarettes have we smoked together? You *know* me.”

“Sorry. If I lose this job, I’ll be out here with y’all.”

“OK, OK, I got you,” Abdul said. He packed his belongings, dragged them around a corner and told everyone else to do the same. They waited outside in the rain for 25 minutes until the end of the security guard’s shift and then moved everything back into the garage. Now their clothes and blankets were drenched, and Eric was shaking and starting to slur his words. Abdul covered him in blankets and sleeping bags and piled on a layer of garbage bags to hold in the heat.

“You getting any warmer?” he asked. Eric just groaned. “Hey,” Abdul said, jabbing his finger against the pile of sleeping bags until Eric finally rolled over.

“I can’t stop shivering,” Eric said. “Everything stings.”

“Just don’t fall asleep — keep talking to me,” Abdul said, and finally, with some prodding, Eric started to tell him about how he had lived for a while on a boat in the San Diego harbor, and how one summer he had sailed his 26-foot Marlin all the way from California to Hawaii.

“I bet it was hot over there,” Abdul said. Eric kept reminiscing about his eight months in Hawaii as Abdul listened and searched the garage for a working cellphone, in case he needed to call 9-1-1. The emergency room at the nearest hospital had recorded 10,500 homeless visits in the last year alone. According to the district attorney’s office, people who were homeless in San Diego were 118 times more likely than the general population to die of a drug overdose, 19 times more likely to be murdered, 12 times more likely to be assaulted, and eight times more likely to commit suicide. One of Abdul’s friends had been murdered with a railroad spike. Another had drowned in the San Diego Bay while drunk. Another had died by suicide, overdosing on prescription medication while Abdul, unaware, listened to music 20 feet away. Another had been hit by a semi-truck after wandering into the highway during a psychotic episode. Others had died from outbreaks of Covid-19, shigella and hepatitis A.

Abdul had helped his partner, Phasia, recover from two overdoses before she died at a friend’s apartment, and lately whenever Abdul remembered that night, his mind wandered from the entryway of the garage up to the sixth-story roof, where he sometimes imagined walking up to the edge and falling.

Eric was silent. Everyone else in the garage was asleep or nodding out on drugs. Abdul nudged Eric’s sleeping bag again with his foot.

“You ever go to one of those luaus?” he asked. Eric didn’t respond.

“Hey,” Abdul said. “You alive under there?”

“Let it be,” Eric said. “I’d probably make a better angel anyway.”

“Not on my watch,” Abdul said. “I’ll stay up with you. You’ll be all right.”

LAINE ARRIVED at the garage early the next morning to deliver them hot coffee, dry blankets and also some good news. She’d spoken to a colleague on her nonprofit team, and it turned out that since Abdul had served in the Air Force after high school, he was eligible for a subsidized apartment through the Department of Veterans Affairs.

“It’s still not a slam dunk,” Laine explained as she started to write down a list of steps for Abdul’s potential move indoors. He needed to replace his lost Social Security card, but he had already exceeded his lifetime limit of 10 cards, so that would require writing a letter and applying for a special exemption. Then he needed to replace his missing state ID, clear up a warrant for a minor drug offense, establish a working bank account, complete a half-dozen forms and interview with potential landlords.

And before he could do any of those things, he needed a working phone.

“You should have a way to communicate with the outside world,” Laine said, and she emphasized her point again: Abdul’s best chance to survive was to get an apartment, and the first step toward getting an apartment was to have a working phone.

“Consider it done,” Abdul said. “It’ll happen today. Guaranteed.”

He knew a guy named Mike who ran a phone kiosk by the bay, and Mike had once told Abdul that if he brought back his old iPhone in working condition, he could replace it with one that had cell service for just $30. Abdul turned on his portable radio and started humming to himself as he searched for his old phone, emptying his suitcases and his grocery cart across the floor of the garage. He found six rolls of toilet paper, 14 cans of food, three electronic screwdrivers, a half-eaten chocolate cake, eight phone chargers, an unopened pack of underwear — and finally, there it was, an iPhone with a cracked screen. “Big day,” Abdul said, as he turned up the music. “Making moves.”

He hit a button to turn on the phone, but the battery was dead. He tried all eight chargers until he found one that fit and then walked to a convenience store to ask if he could use the outlet. The manager said first he needed to buy something, so Abdul went back to the garage and spent 45 minutes trying to borrow money from friends who didn’t have any, until finally someone agreed to pay him $10 to rent his portable radio.

Abdul ran back to the store, bought a pack of cigarettes, plugged in his phone and waited almost an hour until it powered on. The display screen showed that it was just past noon. Abdul still needed to come up with $30, and he also had to find someone to guard his belongings in the garage while he took the trolley to the phone kiosk.

He spotted Henrietta walking down the street, wearing blush and long lashes. “Can you do me a favor?” Abdul asked. “Will you watch my stuff for an hour so it doesn’t get stolen?”

“Sure,” Henrietta said. “Give me 10 minutes. I’ll be right back.”

Abdul repacked his belongings into a corner of the garage and waited for 10 minutes, 30 minutes, almost an hour. “This is starting to get on my nerves,” he said. He searched through his belongings for his portable radio to play some music and then remembered he had rented it out. He smoked a dab of marijuana. He drank from a pint of vodka. He remembered that Laine wanted him to take his anti-anxiety medications when he could feel himself getting upset, so he unpacked all his belongings to search for his pillbox, found nothing, and repacked everything again. It was almost 3 p.m., and the phone kiosk would close in an hour.

“Hey, can you watch my stuff really quick?” Abdul asked another friend, whom he had revived after an overdose a few months earlier.

“Sorry,” the friend said. “I’m having a rough moment.”

“Who the hell ain’t?” Abdul said. Another dab. Another pull off the vodka. He hadn’t eaten in 12 hours or slept in two days, and he could feel his body getting numb and his thoughts becoming cloudy. He looked around for anyone else he could trust to watch his things. Eric was finally asleep on the sidewalk in the sun. Michelle was crying about her abusive boyfriend and pointing her baseball bat in the direction of cars as they drove by. Twenty yards down the sidewalk, a man was smoking fentanyl and nodding out of consciousness with his pants down at his knees. Abdul watched him fall off the curb into the street, and he went over to check on him. The man’s breathing was shallow and his face was starting to turn purple. Abdul thumped him in the chest several times until he was alert enough to sit up and then helped him back to the sidewalk.

“You all right?” Abdul said. The man looked at him but didn’t respond.

“Should I go get the fire department?” Abdul asked. The man shook his head. “Then get your act together,” Abdul said. “Stand up. Pull up your pants. I’m so sick of fixing all these broken toys.”

“Everything OK?” Michelle asked.

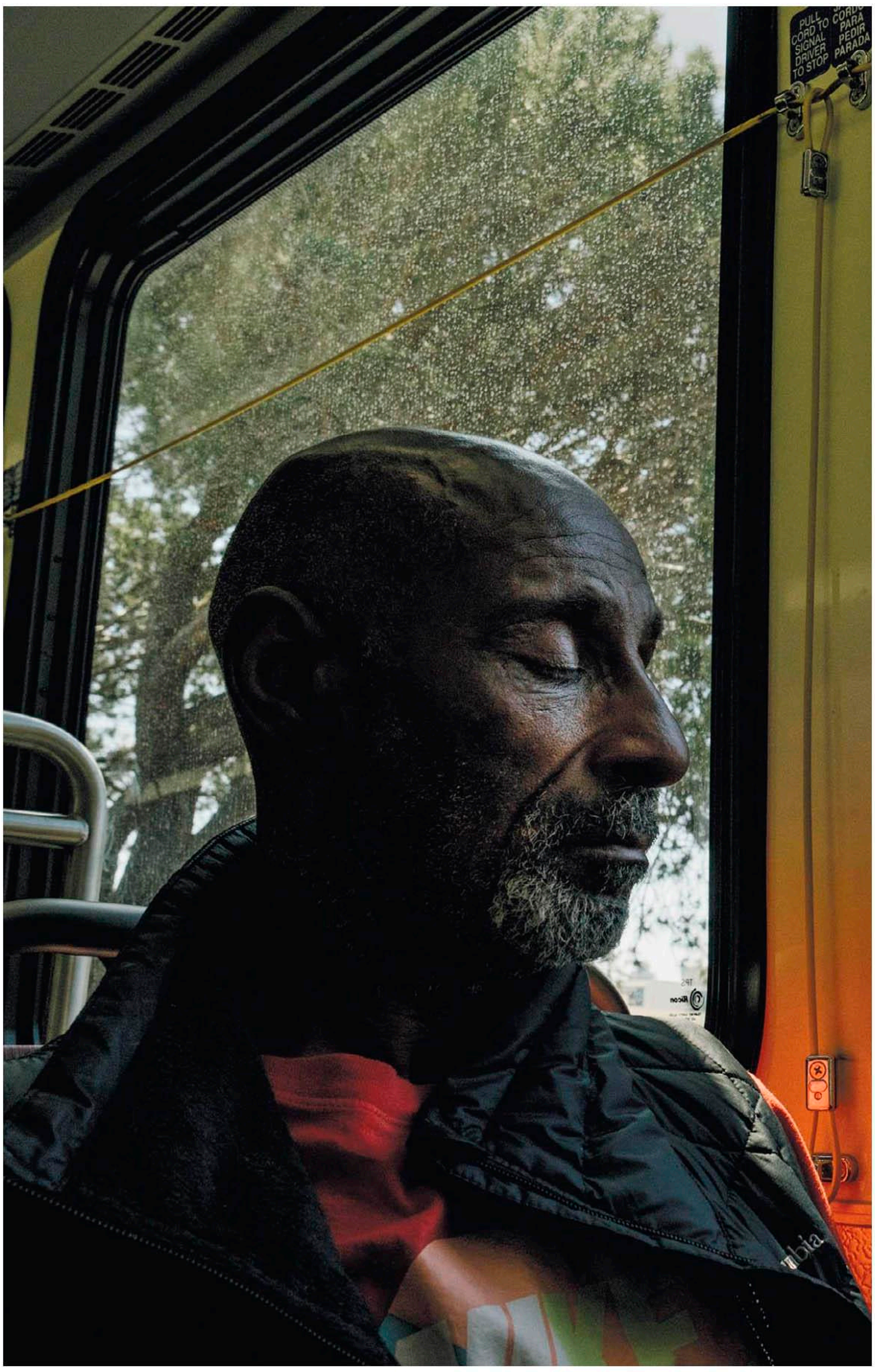
“No, it’s not OK!” Abdul shouted. “I’m nowhere close to feeling stable right now. I spent all day trying to get off this sidewalk and never made it 30 feet. This place is quicksand.”

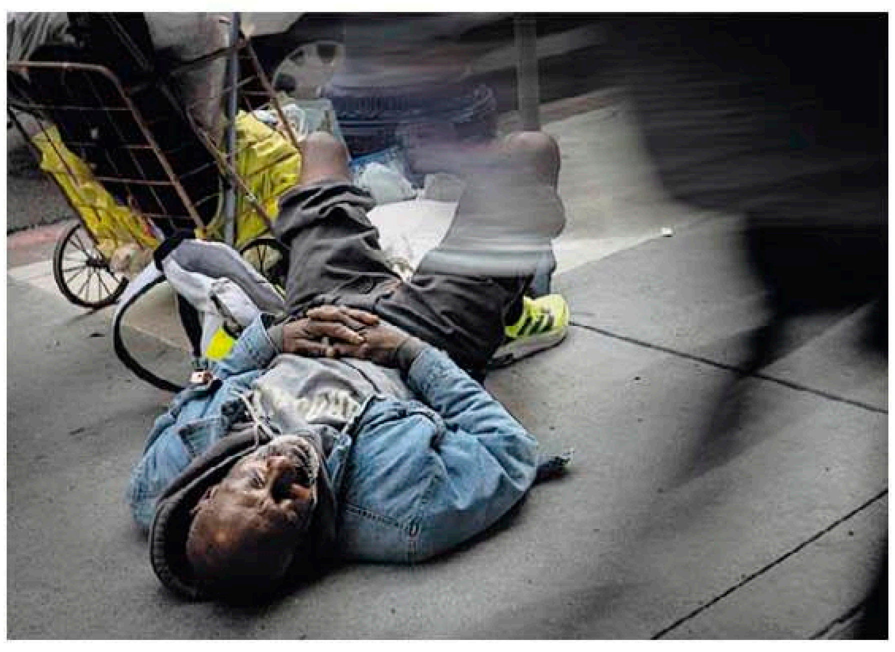
She sat down next to him on the sidewalk and offered him half of her granola bar. They stayed there together until the kiosk closed and the sun dropped below the skyscrapers of downtown, and then they went back into the garage.

A FEW DAYS LATER, Laine pulled up for her next appointment with Abdul and found the garage empty. Abdul’s belongings were piled in a corner, but he was nowhere in sight. “It’s not like him to just leave his stuff,” Laine said, so she started walking through the neighborhood to look for him. He wasn’t in the convenience store where he usually bought vodka or in the soup kitchen where he sometimes ate lunch. She spotted Michelle standing on a corner, smoking a cigarette in her nightgown.

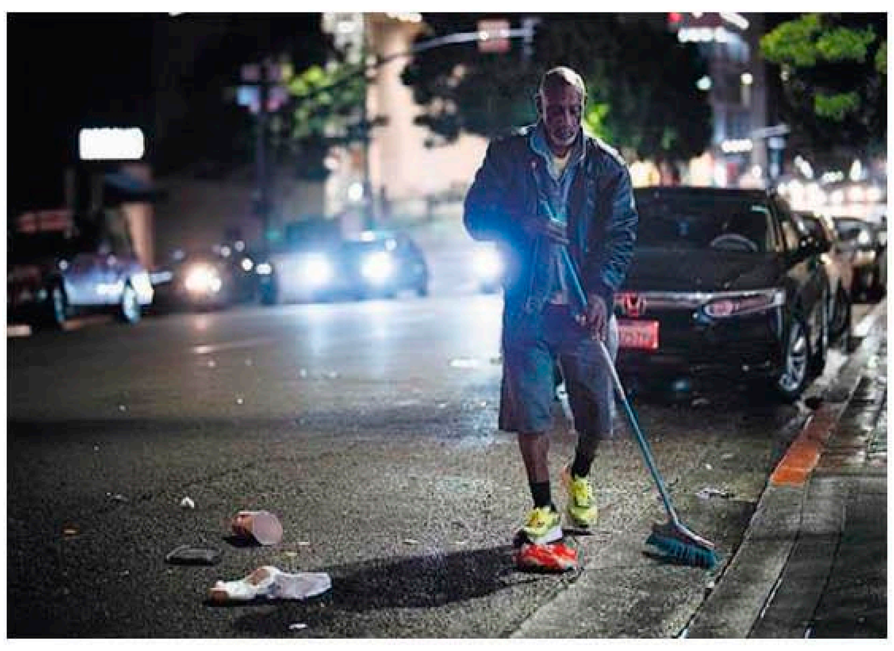
“Any sign of Abdul?” Laine asked.

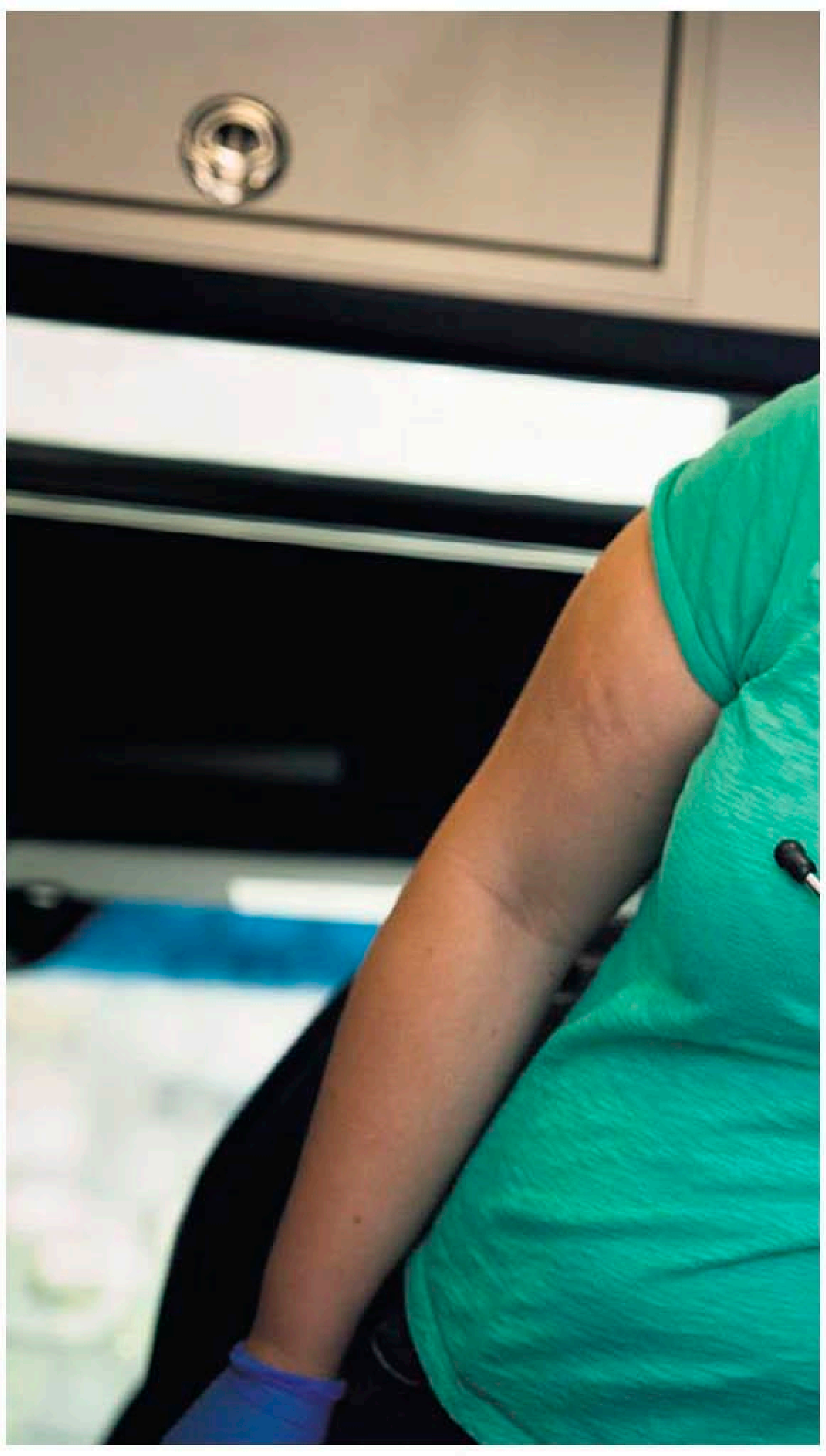
“Not since last night,” Michelle said. She joined Laine’s search, whistling and shouting Abdul’s name across downtown. He had disappeared from the garage before, and once Michelle had found





Abdul sleeping on a sidewalk in downtown San Diego. Living on the street, he said, had become “a daily game of Russian roulette.” Below, sweeping his block. He sometimes cleans the sidewalks while dancing to a playlist of Ed Sheeran songs.







PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERIN SCHAFF/THE NEW YORK TIMES





People who were homeless in San Diego were 118 times more likely than the general population to die of a drug overdose, 19 times more likely to be murdered, and eight times more likely to commit suicide, according to the district attorney's office.



him crawling in the middle of Fourth Avenue with a dislocated shoulder and a broken sternum after being hit by a car. Now she circled the block and saw an ambulance pulling over to the sidewalk where a man was passed out with his face against the ground. "Oh, no," she said. She hurried closer and watched the paramedics lift the person onto a stretcher, until she could tell it wasn't Abdul.

They kept searching until Laine was late for her next appointment. She gave her phone number to Michelle and squeezed her hand. "Call me when you see him," she said.

"He'll turn up and be fine, right?" Michelle asked.

"Probably," Laine said. "I hope so."

She got into a van with her colleagues and went to check on their other patients, almost all of whom were suffering from mental health conditions and substance abuse disorders. One was recovering from an overdose and said her blood still felt "thick like lavender." Another was lying under a highway overpass and trying to pick imaginary parasites from her feet with a flat-head screwdriver. Laine called a prescription into the pharmacy and then checked her phone, wondering about Abdul.

She knew from her own family experience that the outcomes for a life on the street could be sudden and unpredictable. Her father had been homeless in San Diego for brief parts of her childhood as he suffered from alcoholism and an oxycodone addiction, but then he had managed to get sober with the help of a church and become the director of a street choir and a soup kitchen. Her uncle had been homeless at the same time, and despite stints in rehab and several family interventions, he had continued drinking until he died alone in a motel room at age 48. "Sometimes peace is knowing there's an end to suffering," Laine remembered a pastor saying at his funeral.

She parked the van and tried to help stabilize a patient who was throwing rocks into the freeway during a psychotic episode.

She parked again to treat a man with second-degree burns and open wounds on his feet. "How much are you drinking?" she asked. He thought about it for a moment and took a sip of his beer. "Profusely," he said. "Nothing else takes away the pain."

She drove from the East Village to the Second Avenue Bridge, passing row after row of tents. San Diego was building seven new shelters and opening four designated parking lots for people who slept in their cars, but each month more people were being priced out of one of America's most expensive cities and becoming homeless than the number who were getting off the street. There were more than 1,900 people living on the sidewalks of downtown, triple the number from 2020, but what Laine found even more humbling than the scale of the crisis was the effort required to help just one of them.

Abdul was the first patient she had met when she started working at Healthcare in Action, and he had acted as her guide on the street, teaching her the vocabulary of fentanyl addiction and introducing her to other people who needed help. In return, she had spent hundreds of hours trying to untangle the mess of his daily life, but it was never enough. Her team had worked to secure placement for Abdul in a 90-day rehab program, but he left after three days. They got him an appointment with a specialist to check if he had colon cancer, but he fell asleep in the warmth of the waiting room and missed the appointment.

In the last few days, they had found a landlord who knew Abdul and was willing to overlook some of the paperwork and hand over the keys to a subsidized apartment, but Laine was already wondering how long it would last. Abdul had turned his last temporary shelter into a refuge for his homeless friends, collecting people and junk and then eventually rats in his apartment, until he was back outside again.

Laine parked the van, took out her phone and texted Michelle. "Did you find him yet?" she asked. She was walking into the Salvation Army shelter to see another patient when her phone rang.

"I'm with him," Michelle said. "It's not good."

ABDUL WAS SITTING with a blanket over his head in the lobby of a family medical clinic, mumbling to himself, dry heaving and occasionally moaning in pain. Laine knelt beside him to take his blood pressure, and the machine showed a reading of 168 over 153. "That can't be right," she said. She had never seen hypertension that severe in any of her patients, so she restarted the machine and checked again: 165 over 152. "Dude, this is seriously not good," she said. "How are you even managing right now?"

She put her arm around Abdul's shoulder, and after a few seconds he opened his eyes and started to list off some of his symptoms: nausea, headache, dizziness, blurred vision in his right eye, partial paralysis in his hands, and numbness on the right side of his body. Laine called a physician assistant on her team to see if Abdul needed to go to the hospital, but first they decided to try giving him a series of medications. Laine handed him four aspirin and seven other pills. He chewed them down one at a time, and after a while his blood pressure started to come down.

"There's something else we need to do while I'm here," Laine said. She took out a medical form that she'd been thinking about since Abdul went missing. It was an advance directive for his medical care in case of an emergency, and she started reading him the questions.

"If something happened, would you want life support?" she asked. "CPR?"

"I've given it to people lots of times," Abdul said. "So sure, I'd receive it."

"How about a ventilator if you can't breathe on your own?"

"Hmm," he said. He was struggling to keep his eyes open. "If my mind's still there, then yeah, OK. But give me some drugs."

"Feeding tube?"

"That's a hard one," he said. He closed his eyes and leaned back against the chair. "I don't know. Let me think about it."

She waited for a minute as his head dropped toward his chest, and then she put her hand on his knee. "Are you thinking, or are you falling asleep?"

"I'm dreaming," he said.

"About what?"

"Something nice — something other than dying," he said. She watched him for another moment as his body relaxed and his breathing slowed, and then she quietly packed up her medical bag and put away the advance directive for another time. She expected that soon he would have a place to sleep inside, and maybe for at least a while, neither of them would have to worry quite as much about the garage, or the cold, or the rain, or the cars swinging by, or the psychotic episodes, or the falls, or the overdoses.

"Get some rest, and we'll finish this later," she whispered. She got up to leave, but then Abdul stirred and reached for her arm.

"I thought about it," he said. "If there's any way I can still be saved, please save me."

Chris Strachwitz, 91, Who Dug Up the Roots of American Music, Dies

By ALEX TRAUB

Chris Strachwitz, who traveled in search of the roots of American music with the eagerness of a pilgrim, discovered traditional musicians with the skill of a detective, promoted their careers with the zeal of an ideologue and guarded their work with the care of a historian, died on May 5 at an assisted living facility in San Rafael, Calif. He was 91.

The cause was congestive heart failure, his brother, Hubert, said.

Mr. Strachwitz (pronounced STRACK-wits) specialized in music passed down over generations — cotton-field music, orange-orchard music, mountain music, bayou music, barroom music, porch music. The songs came not only from before the era of the music industry but even from before the existence of mass culture itself.

Like other leading musical folklorists of the modern recording era — among them Moses Asch, Alan Lomax and Harry Smith — Mr. Strachwitz rescued parts of that history before they vanished.

But the extent of his devotion and the idiosyncrasy of his passions defy comparison.

Mr. Strachwitz was the founder of Arhoolie Records (the name comes from a term for field hollers). In addition to recruiting his own artists, he did his own field recordings, music editing, production, liner notes, advertising and sales. In the company's early years, he affixed the labels to the records and mailed them himself.

He was a lifelong bachelor who said that having a family would have thwarted his career. On his journeys around the country to record new music, he had for company a manually operated orange juicer and 20-pound bags of oranges. The targets of his search included a highway grass cutter, a gravedigger and a janitor, all of whose musical talents were at the time basically unknown.

He emigrated from Germany after growing up as a teenage count under Nazi rule and went on to explore the fullest reaches of American pluralism. He took an interest not just in the standard roots repertory of folk and blues, but also in norteño, Cajun, zydeco, klezmer, Hawaiian steel guitar, Ukrainian fiddle, Czech polka and Irish dance music, among countless other genres.

To account for what united his passions, Mr. Strachwitz said he liked music that was "pure," "hard-core" and "old-timey," particularly if one of the musicians had a "spark." His language grew more colorful when he defined his type of music negatively.

"It ain't wimpy, that's for sure," he said in a 2014 documentary about him. The movie took its title from Mr. Strachwitz's ultimate insult, which he used to refer to anything that he considered commercial, artificial and soulless: "This Ain't No Mouse Music!"

The first Arhoolie record, released in 1960, was "Texas Sharecropper and Songster," by the blues singer Mance Lipscomb. Mr.



JIM WILSON/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Chris Strachwitz in 2010. He founded Arhoolie Records and did his own field recordings, editing, production, advertising and sales.



VIA ARHOOLIE FOUNDATION

Mr. Strachwitz with perhaps his most notable discovery in Louisiana, Clifton Chenier. Mr. Chenier was the king of zydeco.



The first Arhoolie album, released in 1960, was by the blues singer Mance Lipscomb.

> *He traveled the country for music that was 'pure,' 'hard-core' and 'old-timey.'*

Lipscomb's music had never been recorded, and the new release vaulted him into prominence during the 1960s folk revival. Mr. Strachwitz went on to help revive the careers of other blues singers, including Lightnin' Hopkins, Mississippi Fred McDowell and Big Mama Thornton.

As both a record executive and a record collector, he made a particularly profound historical contribution to norteño, music from the Texas-Mexico border. The Smithsonian Institution last year called his archive of Mexican and Mexican American music "the largest collection of commercially produced vernacular recordings of its kind in existence," noting that it contained many records that are "irreplaceable."

It was the result of about 60 years of collecting — yet Mr. Strachwitz never learned to speak Spanish. Norteño musicians nicknamed him El Fanático.

He might have been considered a preservationist, but he also shaped the worlds that he documented. That was especially true of his recordings of Cajun musicians. In 2000, the rock historian Ed Ward wrote in The New York Times that Mr. Strachwitz "helped prod the culture into what is now a full-blown renaissance."

Perhaps his most notable discovery in Louisiana was the singer and accordionist Clifton Chenier, who came to be regarded as the leading exponent of the mix of rhythm and blues, soul and Cajun music known as zydeco. During a visit to the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival as an older man, Mr. Chenier discussed his frustrations with the record industry.

"They wanted you to do what they wanted you to do, and I didn't like that," Mr. Chenier said. "Then I met Chris."

Mainstream musicians also saw something exceptional in Mr. Strachwitz. In a 2010 profile of Mr. Strachwitz in The Times, the guitarist Ry Cooder said that Arhoolie's second release, "Tough Times," an LP by the blues musician Big Joe Williams, "started me on a path of living, the path I am still on."

Christian Alexander Maria Strachwitz was born on July 1, 1931, in Berlin. He grew up on a country estate called Gross Reichenau, located in what was then the Lower Silesia region of Germany (it is now a village called Bogaczow in southwest Poland). His father, Alexander Graf Strachwitz, and his mother, Friederike (von Bredow) Strachwitz, ran a vegetable and grain farm of about a couple hundred acres. The men of the family had the royal title of count.

The family lived in a manor originally built during the time of Frederick the Great, the king of Prussia. The Nazis appointed Chris's father a local game warden, and during World War II he joined the military and attained the rank of captain, though Hubert Strachwitz said his service was limited to escorting troop transports bound for Italy. On the family's bucolic ancestral property, the war seemed far away to young Chris.

That changed in February 1945. The family fled as the Russians invaded the estate. Chris and two of his sisters had left shortly beforehand on a train; his father escaped in a horse and buggy; Hubert, Chris's other two sisters and his mother left on a tractor-trailer. Thanks to a wealthy relative in the United States, the family was able to reunite in Reno, Nev., by 1947.

Chris served in the U.S. Army from 1954 to 1956. Soon after being honorably discharged, he graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, with a bachelor's degree in political science. He taught high school German in the suburbs of San Jose for several years.

In his free time, Mr. Strachwitz collected records, and he developed a particular interest in Lightnin' Hopkins, whom he struggled to learn more about. There was no public information about whether Mr. Hopkins was even still alive.

In 1959, a fellow music enthusiast told Mr. Strachwitz that he had found the bluesman in Houston. When the school year ended, Mr. Strachwitz went on a road trip.

He later recalled that he found Mr. Hopkins playing in "a little beer joint" — improvising songs in a conversational style, telling a woman in the crowd to quiet down, wondering in song about the man from California who had traveled all the way to Texas "to hear poor Lightnin' sing."

Mr. Strachwitz believed that nobody had ever recorded a scene like that live. Following a tip from one of Mr. Hopkins's songs, he returned to Texas the next year and found Mr. Lipscomb. This time, he brought a recorder.

Meeting musicians where they lived and recording them where they liked to play, rather than in a studio, became Mr. Strachwitz's signature style.

He found unexpected commercial success when Country Joe and the Fish performed their "I-Feel-Like-I'm-Fixin'-to-Die Rag" at Woodstock in 1969. Joe McDonald, the band's lead singer and principal songwriter, had used Mr. Strachwitz's equipment to record the song back in 1965 and given him publishing rights in exchange. With his share of the royalties, Mr. Strachwitz put a down payment on a building in El Cerrito, Calif., near Berkeley, that became the home of Arhoolie and a record outlet he called the Down Home Music Store.

Aside from recording music, he drew attention to the artists he loved by collaborating with the filmmaker Les Blank on several music documentaries.

As the record industry declined, Mr. Strachwitz focused on a nonprofit arm of Arhoolie that digitizes and exhibits his singular record collection. In 2016, Smithsonian Folkways Recordings, the nonprofit label of the Smithsonian Institution, acquired the Arhoolie catalog.

In addition to his brother, Mr. Strachwitz is survived by three sisters, Rosy Schlueter, Barbara Steward and Frances Strachwitz.

There was one word Mr. Strachwitz often used to describe success in his field. When he found an aged master of traditional music playing a song at a resonant time and place, he called it, as if he were hunting butterflies, a "catch."

David Miranda, 37, A Gay Rights Activist Who Helped Snowden

By FLÁVIA MILHORANCE

David Miranda, a child of the Rio de Janeiro slums who became a leading voice for gay rights in Brazil's Congress and who played a supporting role in the leak of classified documents by Edward J. Snowden, died on Tuesday in Rio de Janeiro. He was 37.

His husband, the American journalist Glenn Greenwald, said Mr. Miranda died in the intensive care unit of a hospital after a nine-month struggle with an abdominal infection.

It was Mr. Miranda's role in the Snowden leak that led to his political career.

In 2013, Mr. Snowden, a former contractor with the National Security Agency, handed a trove of highly classified documents about American surveillance programs to Mr. Greenwald and several other journalists, infuriating American officials and setting off an international debate over mass surveillance and privacy.

Mr. Miranda helped lead an effort to obtain asylum in Brazil for Mr. Snowden, who had flown to Hong Kong from Hawaii and was wanted on criminal charges by the United States. The campaign attracted the support of a number of Brazilian celebrities, and the foreign relations and defense committee of the Brazilian Senate recommended granting asylum.

Ultimately the effort failed, and Mr. Snowden flew to Russia, where he was later granted citizenship.

That same year, 2013, Mr. Miranda was detained and interrogated for nine hours by the British authorities at Heathrow Airport in London as he was traveling from Berlin to Rio. He was carrying documents related to the Snowden leaks, and the government confiscated his phone, laptop, camera, memory sticks and DVDs.

An appeal in the case led to a 2016 court ruling that a key part of the law under which he had been detained, Britain's Terrorism Act 2000, was "incompatible with the European convention on human rights."

In a tweet on Tuesday, Mr. Snowden praised Mr. Miranda for his courage.

"I will never forget that when the U.K. broke its own laws to detain David as a 'terrorist' for daring to aid an act of journalism — and threatened to throw him in a dungeon for the rest of his life — he never faltered," Mr. Snowden wrote. "Instead, he dared them to do it."

That experience was a political awakening for Mr. Miranda and gave him the name recognition to seek a political career in Brazil. In 2016, he ran for a City Council seat in Rio, pledging to defend L.G.B.T. rights and fight inequality. He became one of the council's first openly gay members.

Monica Benicio, a Rio councilwoman and gay rights advocate, said in an interview that Mr. Miranda had been a born leader who "became a symbol of the fight for L.G.B.T. rights in Brazil and abroad."

In 2019, when Jean Wyllys, an openly gay member of Congress, resigned and went into self-imposed exile because of death threats, Mr. Miranda was appointed by the Socialism and Liberty Party to take his place.

He immediately became a foil for Brazil's far-right president, Jair Bolsonaro, who was known for his incendiary comments about women and gay and Black people. Shortly after Mr. Wyllys gave up his seat, Mr. Bolsonaro tweeted, "Great day!"

"One L.G.B.T. person is leaving, but another is coming in," Mr. Miranda replied. "See you in Brasília," the nation's capital.

Mr. Miranda was attacked by Mr. Bolsonaro's allies in Congress, throwing him off balance just as he was trying to get his bearings in an institution where most lawmakers were wealthy white men.

"I was feeling like I didn't belong," he said in a 2019 interview with The New York Times. "Everyone else seemed like they knew what they were doing."

His battle with the Bolsonaro administration intensified a few months later, when Mr. Greenwald's news organization, Intercept Brasil, published reports suggesting that Mr. Bolsonaro's main opponent in the race, former President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, had been improperly jailed just six months before the election, raising questions about the legitimacy of Mr. Bolsonaro's victory.

Mr. Greenwald and Mr. Miranda said they had both faced death threats as well as "official acts of reprisal."

Mr. Miranda continued to be a fierce opponent of the Bolsonaro government, criticizing its budget cuts in education and culture and accusing it of mishandling the Covid-19 pandemic.

He was running to be elected to the seat he held when he was hospitalized for a gastrointestinal infection in August 2022.

David Michael dos Santos Miranda was born on May 10, 1985, in Rio de Janeiro. He was the son of a prostitute, who died when he was 5, and was raised by an aunt in Jacarezinho, a favela in the city. He dropped out of school when he was 13.

He was 19 when he met Mr. Greenwald, then a 37-year-old New York lawyer, on a beach in Rio after accidentally knocking over Mr. Greenwald's drink with a ball.

Three days later, they moved in together. Mr. Miranda soon resumed his studies and earned a degree in journalism. They adopted two children in 2018 and a third in 2021.

In addition to Mr. Greenwald, their sons João Victor, Jonathas and Marcelo survive him.

In October, Brazilian voters ousted Mr. Bolsonaro and elected Mr. Lula to replace him.

Mr. Lula praised Mr. Miranda on Tuesday as a young man with "extraordinary trajectory."

That trajectory — a gay, Black orphan's path from a Rio slum to the halls of Congress — Mr. Greenwald told The Times, was "all too rare in a country plagued by massive racial and economic inequality."



DADO GALDIERI FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

David Miranda, at his home in Rio de Janeiro, in 2019. In a tweet, Edward J. Snowden praised Mr. Miranda for his courage.



ERALDO PERES/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mr. Miranda, left, and Glenn Greenwald, testifying before Brazil's Congress in 2013 about leaked N.S.A. documents.

> *An 'extraordinary trajectory' from the slums of Rio to the halls of Congress.*

Kemal Dervis, Who Helped Turkey Avert Economic Disaster, Dies at 74

By NEIL GENZLINGER

Kemal Dervis, an economist who was instrumental in leading his native Turkey out of economic crisis early in this century, and who later became the first person to lead the United Nations Development Program from a country that had received developmental aid from the program, died on Sunday in Bethesda, Md. He was 74.

The Brookings Institution, where Mr. Dervis had been the director and vice president of the global economy and development program and was a nonresident distinguished fellow, confirmed his death. Turkey's state-run Anadolu news agency said he died of an unspecified illness.

Mr. Dervis had been working in various posts for the World Bank for two decades when, in early 2001, prices in Turkey began skyrocketing and the currency, the lira, plunged in value. The journalist Andrew Finkel wrote in April of that year that "Turks carry in their wallets 10-million-lira bills, the highest denominated note in the world, and after the recent debacle worth well under $10."

The crisis was said to have been set off by a disagreement between Turkey's president, Ahmet Necdet Sezer, and prime minister, Bulent Ecevit, over the pace of anticorruption efforts. Banks and financial markets reacted badly to the tiff. The meltdown was fast-moving, and Mr. Dervis, at the time a vice president of the World Bank, was seen as a savior.

"Ecevit, then the prime minister, called Dervis to come and help the country as a minister," M. Hakan Yavuz, a political science professor at the University of Utah and an expert on Turkey, said by email. "He agreed and came to serve his country. His economic policies set the basis of the major economic development between 2002 and 2020 in Turkey."

Mr. Dervis took the newly created post of minister of the economy. "Even Dervis's Name Was Enough" to calm the crisis, a headline in the newspaper Hurriyet said, noting that the announcement of his appointment had boosted markets and eased interest rates — for a day.

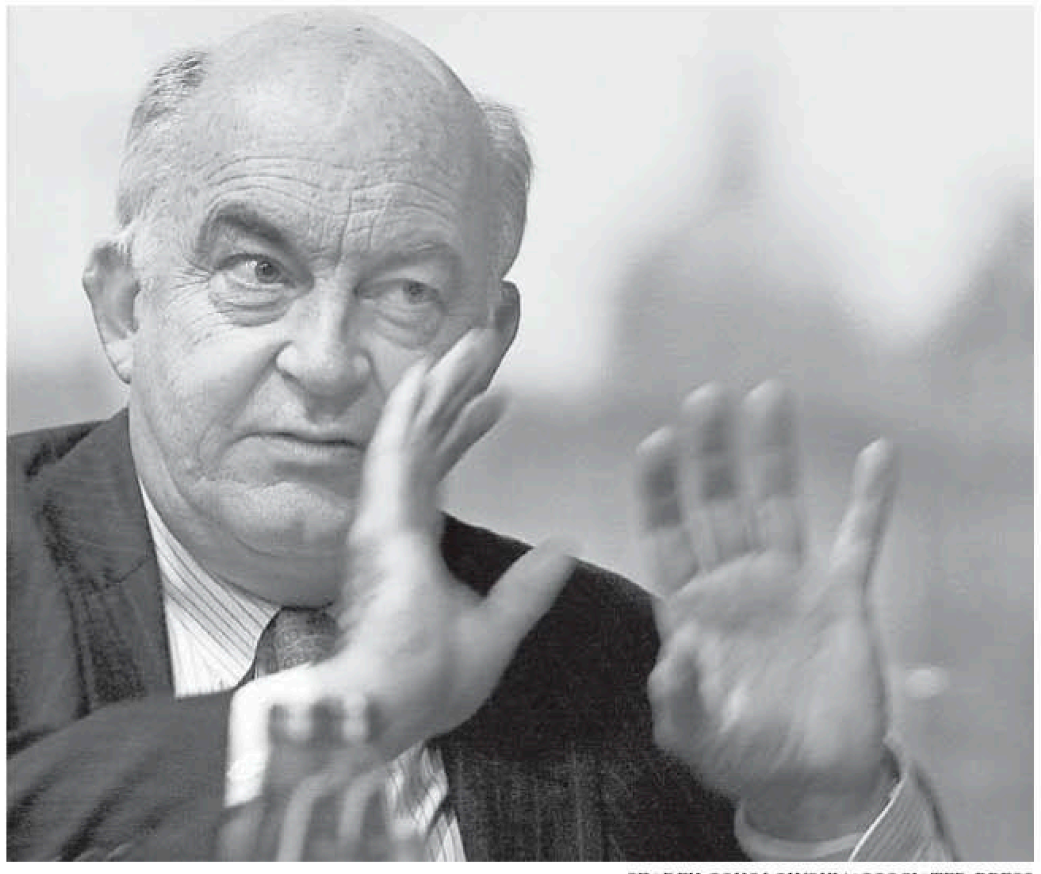
But dealing with the crisis was actually far more complicated. It required Mr. Dervis to negotiate loans with the International Monetary Fund, push for systemic changes in the banking system, try to rein in corruption and, at first, inflict a fair amount of pain through spending cuts.

"Don't expect me to produce policies to save us just for today," Mr. Dervis said in mid-April 2001. "We can't dynamite our future in order to save today."

His policies eventually brought about a sustained period of economic stability, one that Professor Yavuz said lasted until just a few years ago, when President Recep Tayyip Erdogan retreated from Mr. Dervis's policies and allowed corruption to flourish.

Mr. Dervis stayed in the ministry post for a little more than a year before he ran for a seat in Parliament; he won, and went on to serve in that body until 2005. That year Secretary General Kofi Annan chose him to lead the United Nations development office, which works to help countries eliminate poverty and establish sustainable economies.

It was a history-making appointment: Mr. Dervis was the first person to lead the office who was from a country that had received aid from it. (Previous administrators had been American or British.)



CZAREK SOKOLOWSKI/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kemal Dervis in 2008, when he was with the United Nations Development Program, which helps countries eliminate poverty.

Mr. Dervis, Professor Yavuz said, "always focused on the social consequences of economic policies" and in his United Nations post "had a deep sense of helping and caring for the vulnerable sector of the population."

Politically a social democrat, Mr. Dervis focused in particular on how globalization was affecting poorer populations and spotlighted the expected effects of climate change, which, he said, would have a particular impact on the poor in many countries.

Mr. Dervis joined Brookings after four years with the United Nations, continuing to work on ways to make economies benefit everyone.

"He advanced a robust research agenda on strengthening the drivers of global growth, ensuring that no one is left behind," the institution said in a statement, "and proposing policies on the future of global governance and the technological transformation of the world economy, with special focus on productivity, inclusiveness, sustainability, and international cooperation."

His policies eventually brought about a sustained period of economic stability.

Kemal Dervis was born on Jan. 10, 1949, in Istanbul. He earned a bachelor's degree at the London School of Economics in 1968 and a master's in economics there in 1970. In 1973, he received a Ph.D. from Princeton University, and he taught there for a time in the 1970s, as well as at Middle East Technical University in Turkey.

Information on his survivors was not immediately available.

Professor Yavuz said that Mr. Dervis was frequently criticized — not just by the merchants in Turkey who felt that his changes in 2001 were not helping quickly enough, but also by leftists who thought he wasn't leftist enough, and by Islamists and nationalists who considered him an agent of Western imperialism. But throughout, he said, Mr. Dervis was looking at the big picture.

"He cared about creating a socioeconomic system so every citizen could excel," he said.

Bernadine Strik, 60, Who Discovered Ways to Improve Blueberry Harvests

By DANIEL E. SLOTNIK

Bernadine Strik, a horticulture professor at Oregon State University whose innovative cultivation strategies shook up the American blueberry industry, died on April 14 at a hospital in Corvallis, Ore. She was 60.

The cause was complications of ovarian cancer, said her husband, Neil Bell.

Modern farming is as much science as labor, and Dr. Strik, whose career at Oregon State began in 1987, brought a skeptical, scientific approach to blueberry cultivation.

But she had also grown up with her hands in the dirt — her parents owned a nursery and landscaping business — so she had a strong sense of the practical demands farmers face.

"She was able to connect with the growers," Scott Lukas, who took on Oregon State's endowed professorship for Northwest berry production after Dr. Strik retired in 2021, said in a phone interview. She could view research "from that down-to-earth perspective," he added, "and be a human about it and not get lost in the science."

Blueberries have been systematically cultivated in the United States since early in the 20th century. But demand has grown in recent decades as scientists have trumpeted the fruit's health benefits and as packaged forms — frozen, puréed, freeze-dried, powdered — have made it more accessible.

The United States was the largest producer of blueberries until 2021, when it was surpassed by China, according to a report last month from the Agriculture Department's Foreign Agricultural Service.



OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

Bernadine Strik inspecting organic blueberries at an Oregon State University. She brought a skeptical, scientific approach to blueberry cultivation. Right, Dr. Strik in an undated photograph.



NEIL BELL/OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY

When Dr. Strik began examining Oregon's blueberry industry, she found that growers placed plants four feet apart in rows because they thought that the size of mature bushes required that much room. She also observed that blueberry plants were grown standing free, without trellises, and that sawdust was commonly used as mulch because it was cheap and effective at killing weeds.

In a series of studies that took years to complete, Dr. Strik found that changing those practices could improve harvests, according to a 2021 profile on the Oregon Blueberry Commission's website.

Blueberry plants spaced about three feet apart, she discovered, produced 50 percent higher yields as they grew, without lowering yields once they matured. Using trellises prevented the loss of an average of 4 to 8 percent of a blueberry crop during machine harvesting. And using weed mats — material, often synthetic, covering the ground around plants — in addition to sawdust increased yields by up to 10 percent, even when weeds were effectively controlled by the sawdust.

"It was simply because of the change the weed mat did to the soil temperature," she said.

Dr. Strik helped organic growers maximize their yields by planting on raised beds instead of flat ground, a technique that also benefited conventional farms. She persuaded many berry producers, in Oregon and beyond, to accept her research and adopt her measures.

The federal Agriculture Research Service, part of the Agriculture Department, said in a news release in 2022 that "the berry crop industries in Oregon and around the world have all benefited from Strik's research."

Because of that research, the agency said, "yields during development years have increased dramatically, and organic production has increased from less than 2 percent to more than 20 percent of Oregon acreage."

Bernadine Cornelia Strik was born in The Hague on April 29, 1962, to Gerald and Christine (Alkemade) Strik.

In 1965, the Striks moved to Tantanoola, a small town in South Australia, where her father worked in forestry. But they tired of the heat, and in 1971 the family moved to Canada and opened a nursery and landscaping business in Qualicum Beach, on Vancouver Island.

She grew up with her hands in the dirt, and had a strong sense of what farmers face.

After graduating from high school, Dr. Strik earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Victoria on Vancouver Island in 1983. She completed her doctorate in horticulture at the University of Guelph in Ontario in 1987. Soon after that she took a job at Oregon State in Corvallis.

One of her students there was Mr. Bell, who came to Oregon State in 1990 to study for his master's in horticulture. They married in 1994.

In addition to her husband, with whom she lived in Monmouth, Ore., she is survived by their daughters, Shannon and Nicole Bell.

In 2021, the year she retired, Dr. Strik was named a fellow of the International Society for Horticultural Science and won the Duke Galletta Award for Excellence in Horticultural Research from the North American Blueberry Council.

Her two dozen graduate students were an important part of her legacy, Mr. Lukas said. He noted that Dr. Strik had imparted not just academic rigor but also the ability to communicate practically and effectively — a skill he called "a science in itself."



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Chetrit, Simon
Colonna, Alice
Deas, George
Desjardin, Frances
Donley, James
Drummond, John
Flynn, Eugene
Franco, Albert
Frissell, Lee
Holmes, David
Hunt, Phyllis
Kitain, Sandra
Lazo, Theodore
Leake, John
Liberman, Barnet
Lyons, Bridget
McGrath, John
Moriarty, Kathleen
Mulcare, Robert
Rabkin, Jerome
Romaguera, Joaquin
Rosenzweig, Beverly
Sadler, William
Schulman, Toni
Seward, Evelyn
Shaw, Eric
Shinbach, Natalie
Spiro, Eleanor
Stocker, Andrew
Swiller, Hillel

ASPEGREN—John B., Jr.,
of New York died at age 88 on Thursday, May 11, 2023 at Lenox Hill Hospital. Son of John Bacon Aspegren and Lois Barstow Aspegren, he was a world traveler and an accomplished tennis player in New York and Southampton, Long Island. A kind, generous man and loyal friend who will be sorely missed. He is survived by George William Rabbe Jr. of Washington, DC and Charlotte Barstow Rabbe of Los Angeles, CA, as well as a sister, Theodora Aspegren Bailey. Services are to be private.

BILLINGSLEY—Shermane Joy.



October 9, 1944 - April 16, 2023. Shermane Billingsley was a daughter of New York City, and the darling of fabled nightspot the Stork Club, "New York's New Yorkiest place." Her father, Stork Club proprietor Sherman Billingsley, was so certain he would have a son, he completed a birth certificate while his wife was still in labor. It claimed his own name, but when a baby girl arrived, he recast it: Shermane Joy Billingsley. Shermane lived up to her name. She shared her father's sensible and sagacious Oklahoma roots, and his big city smarts and style. She was very much her mother's daughter too. Hazel had been a Ziegfield Follies dancer, and Shermane moved through life with glamour, grace, and the innate talent to dance in ballroom competitions. The Stork Club served as the backdrop to her childhood. She spent her days in its vaunted rooms among the most illustrious stars of the time. A bright light herself, she starred alongside her father on "The Stork Club Show," charming guests and giving puppies to lucky listeners. She attended The Spence School in Manhattan, where she excelled in academics and amity. Her childhood classmates remained her nearest and dearest throughout her life. Upon graduation, she left her beloved NYC to attend Connecticut College. In 1965, Shermane met Craig Drill, a Princeton graduate and navy officer. They were married, and had two sons, Clifford and Austin. Her boys were the lights of her life. She fostered a loving home for her family in Ridgewood, NJ, and dedicated her intelligence and compassion to a local non-profit, Children's Aid and Family Services. Once her boys completed school, Shermane followed her roots back to the Upper East Side, and settled just a street away from her childhood home. There, she reclaimed her father's legacy. She met with historians, journalists, filmmakers, and Broadway producers to talk Cafe Society. She collaborated on The Stork Club Cookbook and Bar Book, and created a website homage to the club. In promotion of the Stork Club book, she recreated a night at the Stork Club at The New York Historical Society. She also became a member of the Lotos Club, one of the oldest literary societies in America. In the early 2000s, she reconnected with Timothy Wheeler, an old friend from the National Review. They married, traveled the world together, and enjoyed a taste of weekend country living in Clinton Corners, NY. Shermane lived a grand life, but she reveled in the simple moments. The sun on her face; a book in her hand; her pup Daisy on her lap; a glass of bubbly by her side; and, the feeling of family beside her. She is survived by her sons Clifford Billingsley Drill and Austin Billingsley Drill, her daughter-in-law Michelle, her two beloved grandsons Bo and Niko Billingsley Drill, and her brother, cousins, nieces, nephews, and the many friends and family who loved her. She is predeceased by her parents Sherman and Hazel Billingsley, her sisters Jacqueline Rorke and Barbara Mohler, her niece Hazel Rorke, her nephew Brian Rorke, and her husband, Timothy Wheeler.

BOWEN—Gary L.
age 83, of Malibu, CA passed away on May 10, 2023. He was a DGA television director and proud alum of Brown University. Gary is survived by his wife, Ruth Preven and his daughter Lara Bowen. For more info about Gary visit: www.Gary-Bowen.com

BRIER—Dorothy A.
Dorothy A. Brier, 93, died on May 12, 2023 at her home in New York City. She was born and raised in Providence, RI and was the daughter of Benjamin and Florence (Genensky) Brier. Dorothy was predeceased by her siblings Shirley B. Lewis, Milton I. Brier and her stepsister Phyllis R. Berry. She is survived by her sister-in-law, Zita G. Brier and her many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends with whom she maintained a long and loving relationship. Dorothy was a graduate of Radcliffe College and the Smith College of Social Work. She spent her professional career as a social worker and retired in 1992 as the Assistant Director of Social Work at Lenox Hill Hospital. Upon her retirement Dorothy became an active volunteer as a docent for the Museum of Natural History and with the American Red Cross Greater New York Region. Dorothy was a pioneer in the field of disaster mental health and established such programs at the Red Cross. She was present at many disasters to provide support including the 9/11 Terror Attack and US Airways Flight 1549 "Miracle on the Hudson" which led to Dorothy playing a Red Cross volunteer in the movie "Sully". She also traveled on behalf of the Red Cross to aid victims of Hurricane Andrew in Florida and the Oklahoma City bombing. Dorothy received numerous awards and recognition for her 30 years of professional volunteer service to the Red Cross. Donations in Dorothy's memory may be made to the American Red Cross Greater New York Region, Smith College of Social Work Class of 1954 Scholarship Fund or a charity of your choice. A funeral service will be held at 2:00pm on Sunday, May 14, 2023, at Riverside Memorial Chapel (180 West 76th St, New York, NY) with a graveside service and burial at 1:30pm on Monday, May 15, 2023, at Lincoln Park Cemetery (Warwick, RI).

BROSTERMAN—Beverly,
passed away peacefully at age 89 in Lake Worth, FL on Sunday, May 7, 2023. Previously of Great Neck, NY. Married to Stanley for 65 years. Survived by two daughters, Julie (Marc) and Randi (Bob), grandchildren Jon (Ava) and Jennifer.

CATHERWOOD—Cummins, Jr.



Cummins Catherwood, Jr., 80, passed away in the presence of loved ones Saturday, May 6. He Is survived by his wife of 57 years, Susan Williams Catherwood. Born in Philadelphia on November 9, 1942, he was the son of Ellen Gowen Hood Catherwood and Cummins Catherwood of Haverford. He attended The Haverford School, Le Rosey School in Switzerland, and graduated from St. Georges School in Newport, RI, then Stanford University and The University of Virginia with degrees in Hispanic American Studies and an MBA. Cummins joined Morgan Guaranty Bank in New York City after graduation from The University of Virginia. After finishing the bank's training program, he joined Butcher & Sherrerd Investment firm in Philadelphia. After several years at Butcher, he joined colleagues to form the investment firm of Rutherford, Brown & Catherwood in Philadelphia. After his firm was bought, he joined Boenning & Scattergood in Conshohocken, from which he retired this year. Cummins had a lifelong devotion to his clients, many of whom had been with him for decades and even generations of families. A recent note from a client, upon learning of his "retirement" read, "There are not enough 'thank you's' in the world to express my thanks for your handling of (3 generations) of accounts! You have so often saved all of us from a much less fortunate life." Cummins was passionate about special-needs children and the multiple services they were afforded through The Easter Seal Society of Southeastern PA, where he served as Board Chair. He also served as the Chair of The Easter Seal Foundation and was a Board member of The Children's Seashore House. He served as the Board Chair of The Catherwood Foundation which was established by his father in 1949 and served on The American Red Cross Board in Philadelphia. He was an enthusiastic member, as was his father, of La Confrerie des Chevaliers du Tastevin, an international wine connoisseur's society. He excelled as a quiet but tenacious competitor in backgammon, loved to fish at the Bright Creek Club in the Poconos and in the West and loved to charter boats for cruises with his friends to far-off places. Cummins was a charming and knowledgeable man with many friends and interests. His family, wife Susan, sons Daniel and Morgan, granddaughter Jade Lee Catherwood, sister Tucker Catherwood Gresh, brother George G.H. Coates and their families and his Maple Grove Farm family Robie and Gary Speed will deeply miss him and his generosity and expertise. He was devoted to his colleagues Lisa Schaub and Lou DePaul at Boenning & Scattergood. A memorial service will be held at a later date. In Cummins' memory, please consider supporting a children's charity.
www.chadwickmckinney.com

CHETRIT—Simon.
UJA-Federation of New York mourns the passing of Simon Chetrit, father and father-in-law of our dear friends Joseph and Nancy. Simon's legacy will live on through his family's generosity and dedication to the Jewish community. We extend our heartfelt condolences to the entire Chetrit family.
Amy A. B. Bressman, President;
David L. Moore, Chair of the Board;
Eric S. Goldstein, CEO

COLONNA—Alice,

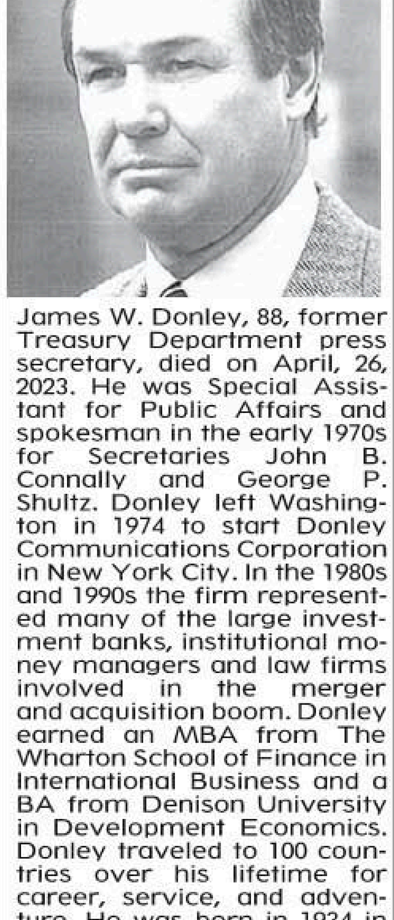


of Hanover, NH, formerly of Woodbridge, CT. May 27, 1926 - April 26, 2023. Alice received a B.A. from Vassar College, M.A. from Columbia University Teachers College, and a Certificate in Early Childhood Education from Bank Street College. As both a teacher and psychoanalyst, Alice devoted her long and dynamic career to the well-being of children and adolescents. She trained under her mentor and lifelong friend, Anna Freud at the Hampstead Clinic, London, followed by decades of teaching, research and clinical practice at the Yale Child Study Center. In addition to her many clinical contributions, Alice will be remembered for her kindness, empathy, contagious giggle, and boundless spirit.

DEAS—Rev. Msgr. George T.,
on May 10, 2023. Faithful Servant of the Lord. Reposing at Immaculate Conception Center 7200 Douglaston Pkwy., Douglaston, NY. Visiting Thursday, May 18, 2023 from 2-5pm. Mass of Transferral 7pm. Funeral Mass Friday 11am at the Immaculate Conception Center. Interment St. John's Cemetery. Services are entrusted to Martin A. Gleason Funeral Home.

DESJARDIN—Frances,
age 81, peacefully passed away on Saturday, April 8, 2023, in San Antonio, TX. Her sons survive her: Richard, Ronald, and David Desjardin. Her brothers: Frank Baran of Youngstown, OH, Matthew Baran of Taylor, TX, and Thomas Baran of St. Petersburg, FL. Sisters: Barbara Davey-Canada of New York City, NY, and Mary Hancock of Gun Barrel City, TX.

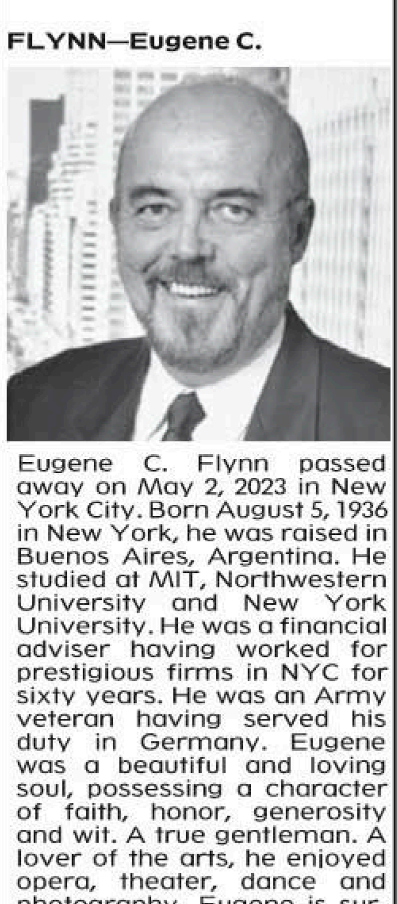
DONLEY—James W.



James W. Donley, 88, former Treasury Department press secretary, died on April, 26, 2023. He was Special Assistant for Public Affairs and spokesman in the early 1970s for Secretaries John B. Connally and George P. Shultz. Donley left Washington in 1974 to start Donley Communications Corporation in New York City. In the 1980s and 1990s the firm represented many of the large investment banks, institutional money managers and law firms involved in the merger and acquisition boom. Donley earned an MBA from The Wharton School of Finance in International Business and a BA from Denison University in Development Economics. Donley traveled to 100 countries over his lifetime for career, service, and adventure. He was born in 1934 in Hudson, OH where his family was in the iron and steel business and farming. He is survived by his wife, Mary Todd Donley of Greenwich, CT, his daughters, Dana Donley Morton and Eliza Donley Nolte, stepchildren Jonathan Goodspeed, Emily Timchak, Mary Todd Goodspeed and Ben Goodspeed and 14 grandchildren.

DRUMMOND—John Eric Perth,
Earl of Perth, died peacefully at home in London, UK on March 27, 2023. Born July 7, 1935. He is survived by his wife, Marion, his sons James David and Robert Eric, his brother James Reginald Drummond, two grandchildren and his stepdaughter, Mary. He was the son of David, Earl of Perth and Nancy Fincke, and grandson of Reginald Fincke and Edith Fincke of New York.

FLYNN—Eugene C.

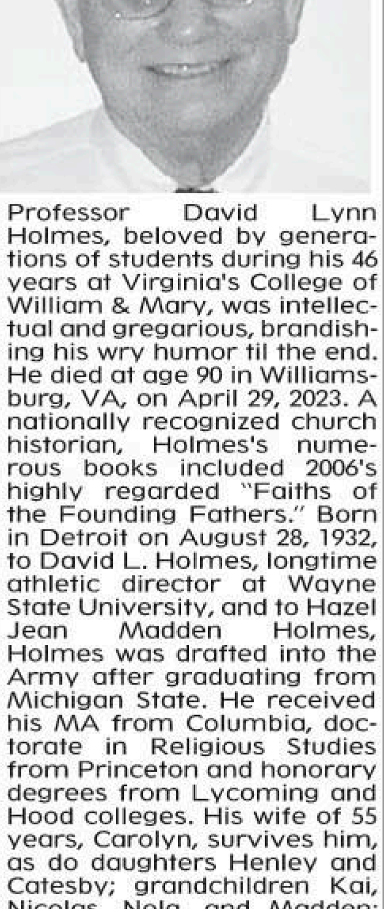


Eugene C. Flynn passed away on May 2, 2023 in New York City. Born August 5, 1936 in New York, he was raised in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He studied at MIT, Northwestern University and New York University. He was a financial adviser having worked for prestigious firms in NYC for sixty years. He was an Army veteran having served his duty in Germany. Eugene was a beautiful and loving soul, possessing a character of faith, honor, generosity and wit. A true gentleman. A lover of the arts, he enjoyed opera, theater, dance and photography. Eugene is survived by his wife Jovita Castillo and many good friends. Good night sweet prince. A flight of angels sing thee to thy rest. I love you.

FRANCO—Albert G.,
died May 2, 2023, was born in Brooklyn on August 10, 1935 to Gabriel and Bess Franco who emigrated from Rhodes and Turkey. Albert went to Abraham Lincoln High School, excelled at math (and handball) and then attended Columbia School of Engineering and Columbia Engineering graduate school on a full scholarship. Albert began his career at IBM and then started his own company which he took public in 1972. The company, Ultimacc, was listed on the Boston Stock Exchange (later Nasdaq) and specialized in computer automation of small to mid-sized companies. Albert met Fanny Kligman in 1960 on a blind date and they married shortly thereafter. Fanny was born and raised in Colombia, South America and had moved to the United States to attend college. Albert and Fanny lived in Tenafly, New Jersey from 1972 until August 2022. Albert battled Alzheimer's disease and was alert until the end. The family is grateful for the support of friends and family who made the effort to visit and communicate with him. Albert is survived by his beloved wife of 62 years, Fanny, daughters Laura and Stephanie Franco, sons-in-law David Kostin and Dr. Michael Scherl, grandchildren Alex and Julia Kostin, and amazing sister, Lillian Krasner. Donations to Alzheimer's Association.

FRISSELL—Lee,
husband, father, educator and civil rights activist, died May 6, 2023 in Austin, TX.

HOLMES—David Lynn.



Professor David Lynn Holmes, beloved by generations of students during his 46 years at Virginia's College of William & Mary, was intellectual and gregarious, brandishing his wry humor til the end. He died at age 90 in Williamsburg, VA, on April 29, 2023. A nationally recognized church historian, Holmes's numerous books included 2006's highly regarded "Faiths of the Founding Fathers." Born in Detroit on August 28, 1932, to David L. Holmes, longtime athletic director at Wayne State University, and to Hazel Jean Madden Holmes, Holmes was drafted into the Army after graduating from Michigan State. He received his MA from Columbia, doctorate in Religious Studies from Princeton and honorary degrees from Lycoming and Hood colleges. His wife of 55 years, Carolyn, survives him, as do daughters Henley and Catesby; grandchildren Kai, Nicolas, Nola, and Madden; and nephew Keith Wunderlich and cousins. Holmes was "hopeful about death," he said. "I would live as if life continued after death - and I would not be surprised to find that it did." Memorial July 15 at Bruton Parish Church in Williamsburg. Donations to the David L. Holmes Reformation Studies and American Religious History Endowment (3447) support a professorship at William & Mary. Checks should be made payable to the William & Mary Foundation/Holmes at P.O. Box 1693, Williamsburg, VA 23187, or donate online impact.wm.edu/holmes.

HUNT—Phyllis R., (formerly Minoff, nee' Funt).
Born August 11, 1933 in Bronx NY, died March 14, 2023, from Lewy Body dementia at age 89 in Glendale, CA. She is predeceased by her parents Samuel (Bob) and Hannah (Grace) Funt and her sister Minette Shepherd. Under both the names Hunt and Minoff, she worked in television for many years, starting as an assistant to renowned talent agent George (Bullets) Durgom. As her career in television development and production progressed, she worked for Danny Wilson Productions, Primetime, and then at Score Productions (a music production company). She is best known under the name Phyllis Minoff for her work on NBC Special Treats and ABC After School Specials. She received two Daytime Emmy nominations for "NYC Too Far From Tampa Blues" in 1979 and for "Rocking Chair Rebellion" in 1980. She is also known for the mini-series Sophisticated Gents with Paul Winfield and received writer's credit on the "The Great Walendas" with Lloyd Bridges (a 1978 movie of the week). Phyllis was a creative and attentive mother to her son, Jed and daughter, Julie. She and her children would often laugh uncontrollably at her funny faces and stories she made up on the spot. Phyllis' unconditional love was felt by her children and her granddaughters. Her friendships were filled with laughter, support, and intense political discussion. When she was raising her children, she was also supportive to neighborhood kids, offering a non-judgmental shoulder. Phyllis had a huge impact on all of those around her. She was loving, charming, smart, hilarious, a tremendous judge of talent, an incurable flirt, proudly independent, and good at everything except sports. She was passionate about New York City. Phyllis was whip smart; graduating high school at age sixteen, attending college (first in her family), and finishing The New York times crossword puzzle every Sunday for most of her life. She loved The New York Times and was well informed and gave generously to social justice causes and charity for animals and children. Ms. Hunt is survived by her devoted son, Jed Minoff (wife Madoka) of Glendale, CA, daughter, Julie Minoff (husband Glenn Mar) of San Francisco, CA, and her beloved granddaughters Maya Grace Minoff and Natasha Hope MarMinoff. She is also survived by her niece Rachel Wallach of Atlanta, Georgia and assorted cousins and dear friends of many years including her best friends, Ruth Saks, Arnold Sank and Gloria Gallo.

HUNT—Phyllis Minoff.
We cherish memories of your humor, intellect, smiles and the joys we shared.
Lovingly,
Judy and Stephen Sultan

KITAIN—Sandra Fern,
passed away peacefully at home in Washington Crossing, PA on Sunday, May 7, 2023, with Howard, her husband of 46 years, at her side. A mother, grandmother, educator, and author of "Shelf-Esteem," Sandy was born in Queens, NY on April 8, 1953. She is survived by her husband, children and grandchildren.

LAZO—Theodore Dean
On May 7, 2023 Theodore Dean Lazo, retired financial executive, of Chestertown, MD, beloved husband of Kathy, father of T.R. Lazo and Cynthia Bertolini, grandfather of five, passed away. For future service information please visit
www.fhnfuneralhome.com.

LEAKE—John Andrew Dobson, MD, MPH.
March 8, 1965 - April 19, 2023
John Andrew Dobson Leake, MD, MPH died in Los Angeles at the age of 58. He was the son of the late Dr. Donald Leake and Dr. Rosemary Leake. Born in London, Dr. Leake graduated from Phillips Exeter Academy and received his A.B. from Harvard College. After earning a Masters degree in Public Health from the University of California, Los Angeles, he completed his medical degree at the University of California, San Diego Medical School. Throughout his career, Dr. Leake sought to help those most in need. As an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer for the Centers for Disease Control, Dr. Leake worked in the Division of Meningitis and Special Pathogens running numerous investigations. He attained a rank of Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Public Health Service, and over the course of nearly twenty years, he served as Technical Advisor to Ministries of Health in multiple African, South American, and Asian countries. As one of many examples of his work, he established a path-breaking immunization program, personally traveling through every county of Mali to protect citizens against meningitis. He then returned to the University of California, San Diego to work at the Rady Children's Hospital, ultimately as a Professor of Pediatrics and a Professor of Medicine. He concluded his career as the Medical Director for Infectious Diseases at Quest Diagnostics, the world's largest medical testing provider. Dr. Leake excelled at all that he did. He was multilingual, an accomplished chef, and a talented musician. In high school, he was all-New England Junior Pole Vault Champion and in later years, a competitive triathlete, marathoner and cyclist. He was kind, curious, and funny, and cared deeply about his family and friends, climate change, and the peoples of the world. In addition to his mother, Dr. Rosemary Leake, he is survived by his sisters Catherine Leake, PhD and Elizabeth Leake, PhD, their families, and numerous other loving relatives. A funeral service will be held on May 10th at 11:00am at Saint John Fisher Church, 5448 Crest Road, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to one of Dr. Leake's favorite charities, the World Central Kitchen. (wck.org)

LIBERMAN—Barnet L.,
age 76, of New York, NY, passed away on May 12, 2023. Entrepreneur who believed deeply in building communities. Devoted husband to Phyllis and loving father to Ava, Zoe, Stella, Leah, and Aaron. Dear brother to Annette and Mike Miller and loving grandpa to Adira, Rami, Alan, Maya, Irene, and Yosefa. Beloved by family, colleagues, and friends.

LYONS—Bridget Gellert.
Bridget passed away on May 8 at age 90. Born in Prague, she is survived by her loving husband of 52 years, Bob, her brothers Robert and Donald, her sisters-in-law Rosa and Elaine, many nephews and nieces, and countless devoted friends. She was predeceased by her parents Leopold and Marianne, her sister Elinor and her brother Max. She graduated from Radcliffe (Harvard), and received an MPhil from Oxford and a PhD from Columbia. She had a distinguished career at Rutgers as a Professor of English and Associate Dean of Humanities, and was the longtime editor of Renaissance Quarterly. Her passion, her joy and her wit will be sorely missed. Details of a memorial service will be announced at a later date.

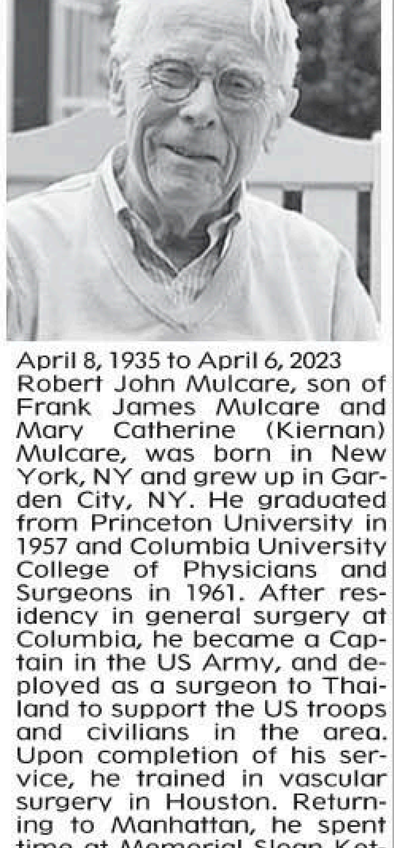
McGRATH—John William,
passed away on May 3rd. He was 90 years old. Better known as "Jack," he was the oldest child of Hugh and Marion McGrath. He grew up in New Rochelle, NY, graduated from The Canterbury School, Williams College and New York Law School. From 1955-1957, he served in the United States Army as a counterintelligence agent. He was a partner at the law firm Lane and Mittendorf; when he retired in 2019, he was of counsel at Gallagher Lagalante. Jack had a lifelong passion for politics. He was actively involved in many campaigns and served as Chief Advanceman for Governor Nelson Rockefeller in two presidential campaigns. An avid golfer, gardener, and baker, he served on committees at the University Club and was a Brother of Holland Lodge No. 8, F.A.&M. He is survived by his wife of 35 years, Patricia Ogden McGrath; his son, John W. McGrath (Johanna); his three grandsons Hogan McGrath, Dylan Diouf, and Leo Diouf; his three stepchildren Alix Ogden, Alfred T. Ogden III, Fell Gray and their families; a brother Hugh McGrath and two sisters, Mary Elizabeth Hutcoe and Julianne McGrath. His daughter, Paula McGrath Diouf predeceased him. A service will be held on Tuesday, May 23 at 4pm at the Church of the Heavenly Rest, 1085 Fifth Ave. at 4pm. In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations to the Paul McGrath Scholarship Fund at The Canterbury School, 101 Aspetuck Avenue, New Milford, CT 06776.

MORIARTY—Kathleen Hill.



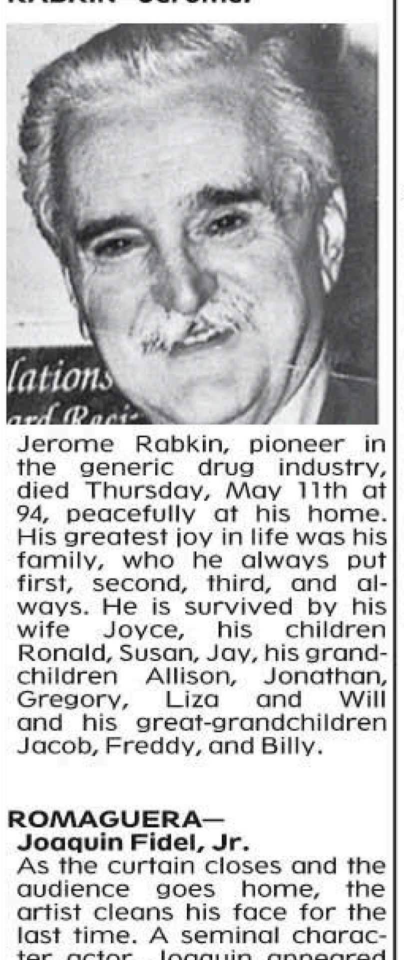
Kathleen, the acclaimed and admired "Spider Woman of Wall Street", passed away unexpectedly on December 20, 2022. Known for helping launch exchange-traded funds, beginning with the SPDR S&P 500 ETF in 1993, she was an industry pioneer and received the ETF.com Lifetime Achievement Award. She is survived by her husband, Robert John Keefe, her brother Kevin Moriarty, her stepdaughter Megan Keefe O'Neill (Ryan) and by her grandson Will. Kathleen was a graduate of The Brearley School, Smith College, and the University of Notre Dame Law School. She will be remembered by relatives, friends, colleagues and people she mentored for her intelligence and grace. A Memorial Service will take place on Saturday, June 10, 2023 at 10am at The Church of St. Thomas More in Manhattan. In her honor, donations to her beloved Camp Wohelo would be much appreciated: wohelo.com/wohelo-giving/

MULCARE—Robert John, MD.



April 8, 1935 to April 6, 2023
Robert John Mulcare, son of Frank James Mulcare and Mary Catherine (Kiernan) Mulcare, was born in New York, NY and grew up in Garden City, NY. He graduated from Princeton University in 1957 and Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in 1961. After residency in general surgery at Columbia, he became a Captain in the US Army, and deployed as a surgeon to Thailand to support the US troops and civilians in the area. Upon completion of his service, he trained in vascular surgery in Houston. Returning to Manhattan, he spent time at Memorial Sloan Kettering before settling at Roosevelt Hospital where he remained for the duration of his surgical career. Bob was a dedicated faculty member at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and for the surgical residency at Roosevelt. He built a private practice on the Upper East Side of Manhattan, where he had a loyal patient following and staff for 35 years. He was on the consulting staff at Greenwich Hospital. After retiring from active practice at 72, Bob spent ten years consulting for a wholly doctor-owned insurance company defending malpractice suits. Bob met his wife, Betsy, in 1977 on a blind date. Married in 1978, they enjoyed a wonderful 44 years of marriage. They lived in Greenwich, CT, and spent significant time both in Boca Grande, FL and traveling. He was a member of The Belle Haven Club, The Boca Grande Club, and The Nassau Club in Princeton. In addition to medicine, Bob was known for both his love of art and his musical ability as a jazz pianist. He was the Musical Director for The Princeton Triangle Club, which included an appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show. Bob led by example and was known for his kind and thoughtful demeanor laced with amusing observations. He is survived by his wife, Betsy, their two children and spouses (Mary and Dave Paretti, Bobby and Lori Mulcare) and five grandchildren (Katie and Claire Paretti, Andrew, Julie and Teddy Mulcare). He was a wonderful son, brother, husband, father, grandfather, and friend and touched the lives of all who knew him. Bob maintained his decision-making prowess until the end. He slipped away with his family supporting him at the bedside in Greenwich Hospital. Bob always preferred an Irish exit; this time was no different. He will be deeply missed. Raise a glass.

RABKIN—Jerome.



Jerome Rabkin, pioneer in the generic drug industry, died Thursday, May 11th at 94, peacefully at his home. His greatest joy in life was his family, who he always put first, second, third, and always. He is survived by his wife Joyce, his children Ronald, Susan, Jay, his grandchildren Allison, Jonathan, Gregory, Liza and Will and his great-grandchildren Jacob, Freddy, and Billy.

ROMAGUERA—Joaquin Fidel, Jr.
As the curtain closes and the audience goes home, the artist cleans his face for the last time. A seminal character actor, Joaquin appeared in over 70 operatic roles and 24 musical comedies. His mighty tenor voice stopped the show on Broadway as Pirelli in Stephen Sondheim's award-winning musical, "Sweeney Todd" — the role of his lifetime. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, "brother dear" and uncle. A master storyteller and orator, his final bow was May 9, 2023. He tours another world, regaling us in our memories. "Love you more."

ROSENZWEIG—Beverly
"Bobbie", 95, of Great Neck, on Friday May 5, having lived a long, full and joyous life. Wife of the late Irving, mother of Paul (Katy) and James (Risa), grandmother of Jordana, Olivia and Dustin. She had many step-grandchildren, step-great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She will be missed dearly by each and every one of us. She was a longtime member of Temple Beth-El and advocate of community outreach on Long Island with an emphasis on inter-faith understanding. An early graduate of Cornell, she helped lead women of her generation to access educational and economic opportunities. Bobbie believed that life should be fun and lived with gusto among her friends and family. The funeral service will be held at 11:30am, Tuesday May 9 at Riverside Nassau North Chapels, Great Neck, NY. To honor her passion for the summer camping experience, contributions may be made to the Fresh Air Fund.

SADLER—William Rutherford.



William Rutherford "Bill" Sadler, 82, passed away peacefully at the University of North Carolina Hospice Home, Pittsboro, on April 12, 2023 after a brief battle with cancer. A longtime resident of New York City and Garrison, New York, he had been a resident in recent years of Galloway Ridge near Chapel Hill. His family was by his side. Born in Little Rock, Arkansas, on May 9, 1940, Bill was educated in the wonderful public schools of his native city before moving on to Davidson College in North Carolina. After serving as a lieutenant in the U.S. Army in Germany, Bill continued his formal education as a Woodrow Wilson Scholar at Cornell University, after which he earned an MBA at Columbia University. A long career in investment research and management followed, beginning at Smith Barney & Co. His investment work carried him to Irving Trust Company, NSR Asset Management, which became Pine Tree Capital where he was president, and finally Lord Abbett & Co. On a trip to Puerto Rico in 1968, Bill met his lifelong partner and later husband, William "Bill" Hicks, a pioneering New York theatrical and political fundraiser. They soon became known as "The Bills" and for their irrepressible, often devilish humor as well as active civic engagement. Both were devoted to their Black Labradors, Lola, Olive and Velma, affectionately called "The Girls." Bill Sadler's mischievous smile and laughter at his own foibles will long be remembered. He often cited Hicks's chiding him on lengthy correspondence. "What are you doing, writing another War and Peace?" Recipients relished the sequels. As they did the playful and occasionally acerbic wit that enlivened his commentary on the passing scene. He loved travel, which stimulated his curiosity and added to the considerable depth of his understanding of and thoughtful insights into history and politics. He was an unabashed Anglophile, who also loved his gardens. After buying a home in Garrison in 1995, The Bills helped establish an endowment for supporting gymnastics at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, across the Hudson River, that today totals millions. Bill Sadler was also an active board member of the Desmond-Fish Public Library in Garrison where he chaired the Nominating Committee for several years. A longtime member of The First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York, he served on the Session and as president of the Board of Trustees and chair of the Investment Committee. The Bills moved to the retirement community of Galloway Ridge in 2016. Bill Sadler soon became chairman of its Employee Scholarship Fund Committee, raising funds for employees to pursue higher education. In short order, the funds quadrupled. He was also active in the Chatham County Democratic Party, was a dedicated fundraiser for state offices, and was co-chair of the Galloway Ridge Villa Democrats, spearheading the group's get-out-the-vote initiatives and happily achieving a turnout rate of 100 percent in his neighborhood. Bill is survived by his nephew, Alfred G. Duncan III of Los Angeles, and his niece, Darrielle Duncan of Jacksonville, Florida. He was preceded in death by his beloved husband, his parents, Gladys McClain Sadler and William Harold Sadler, and his sister, Marilyn Sadler Duncan. At his express request, there will be no service. The family requests that any memorial donations be made to Guiding Eyes for the Blind, 611 Granite Springs Road, Yorktown Heights, New York 10598 (800-942-0149) or to the Jim & Betsy Bryan Hospice Home of UNC Health Care, 100 Roundtree Way, Pittsboro, North Carolina 27312 (984-215-2675).
Bill cherished this life and he wishes all a joyous life in their own days ahead.

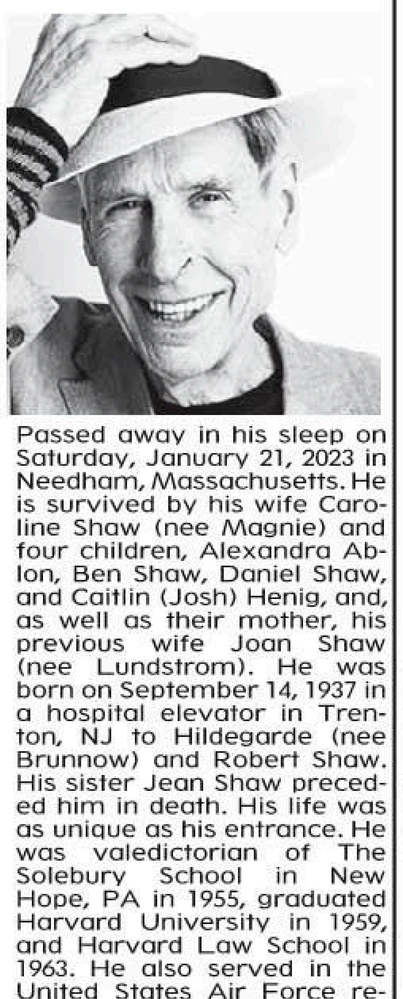
SCHULMAN—Toni.



Toni Schulman (Antonia nee Scheckner) forever New York City and East Hampton resident, completed her lifetime at her Central Park West home, May 10, 2023 at age 92. Toni, Artist, collector, autodidactic, strong, elegant and generous woman, is beloved for her originality, grace and family. Toni's iconic beauty was renowned and apparent even as she took her last breaths. With her natural curatorial abilities,Toni's life was filled with art, animals and love. An unrivaled Matriarch of a loving family, Toni will live forever through her children, Robert, Barbara and Ami Schulman; grandchildren Ariel, Nev and Laura Schulman, Fiona, Camille, Caleb, Kyra, Dillon and Samantha Breslin; great-grandchildren Cleo, Beau and Cy Schulman. Toni S. Schulman was predeceased by her parents Herman and Helen Scheckner and her beloved dog, Tootsie.

SEWARD—Evelyn Jane,
the center of a universe of family, friends, neighbors, died on May 4, at home in Alexandria, VA, at almost-102. A woman of boundless love and impeccable taste, she was predeceased by her husband and daughter. Here to miss her for the rest of our lives are her two sons and their spouses, her four grandchildren and theirs, and her two precious great-grandchildren. How did she do it? "Well, I never drank and I never smoked..."

SHAW—Eric Wallace.

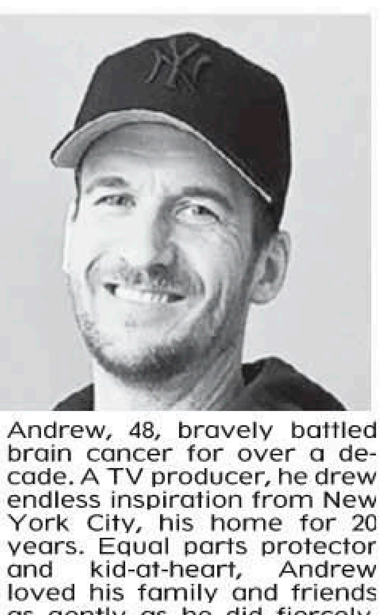


Passed away in his sleep on Saturday, January 21, 2023 in Needham, Massachusetts. He is survived by his wife Caroline Shaw (nee Magnie) and four children, Alexandra Ablon, Ben Shaw, Daniel Shaw, and Caitlin (Josh) Henig, and, as well as their mother, his previous wife Joan Shaw (nee Lundstrom). He was born on September 14, 1937 in a hospital elevator in Trenton, NJ to Hildegarde (nee Brunnow) and Robert Shaw. His sister Jean Shaw preceded him in death. His life was as unique as his entrance. He was valedictorian of The Solebury School in New Hope, PA in 1955, graduated Harvard University in 1959, and Harvard Law School in 1963. He also served in the United States Air Force reserves. His career as an international [corporate] attorney began in Bogota, Colombia and led him to New York City (Battle Fowler LLP followed by Paul Hastings LLP). For six decades, he traveled and worked with clients throughout the United Kingdom, Europe, Central America and the Caribbean, where he served as the first general counsel to The Mustique Company. His clients praised his ethics and fairness. One of his many achievements was drafting the formation documents for the first national women's league, the USL W-League, established in 1995. He was an avid student of history, a lover of the arts, literature and all sports, not least his beloved Saint Louis Cardinals. A devoted jazz aficionado, he was also at one point the only resident in the country of Colombia to possess the Beatles' full catalog of recordings. He later discovered Led Zeppelin, and, later in life, became a prolific theatergoer, amassing hundreds of Broadway Playbills. He spent his life traveling the world extensively, both privately and professionally. His will to live was legendary: surviving a gunshot wound at 13, multiple car crashes, a ski accident, multiple bouts of cancer, and Covid-19. He touched so many lives with his generosity, kindness, and service. He will be greatly missed. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that anyone make a donation in his name to Parkinson's Foundation at https://www.parkinson.org/. A service will be held at 1pm on Saturday May 20th, 2023 at Church of the Redeemer in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts.

SHINBACH—Natalie.
of New York City died of Parkinson's Disease on April 29, 2023. Natalie, 81 years old was loved and loved in return as a mother, grandmother, wife, sister, friend and advisor to many. She is survived by her devoted husband Kent, daughter Hope, son-in-law David, sister Faith, stepdaughter Leah, granddaughters Juliette and Lila and grandson Benjamin. Natalie who grew up in Worcester, MA, was a marital therapist in private practice and will be remembered for her support of and passionate insight into human relationships. She was deeply interested in interior design, fashion, travel and cooking. She will be greatly missed.

SPIRO—Eleanor,
passed away in Monroe Village, NJ at the age of 104. She lived in New York City and Forest Hills, NY. She graduated from NYU with a Master's Degree and taught at Flushing Meadows High School. When she retired she moved to South Jersey. She is survived by two cousins Joan Karol and Edward Wallach. She was greatly loved.

STOCKER—Andrew.

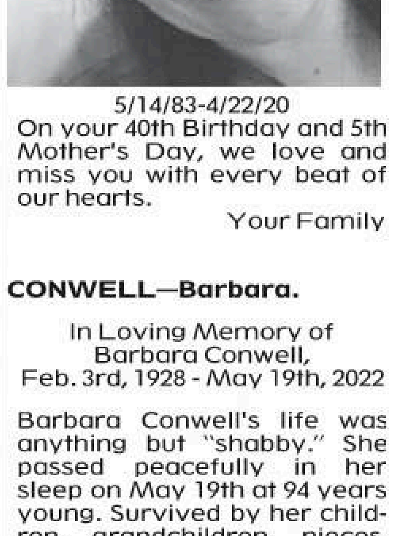


Andrew, 48, bravely battled brain cancer for over a decade. A TV producer, he drew endless inspiration from New York City, his home for 20 years. Equal parts protector and kid-at-heart, Andrew loved his family and friends as gently as he did fiercely, and will be profoundly missed.

SWILLER—Hillel, MD.
It is with profound sadness that we note the passing of our beloved colleague Hillel Swiller, MD, on May 7. A highly esteemed Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Dr. Swiller was a pioneering psychiatrist who played a leading role in expanding mental health services, research, and education at Mount Sinai for more than half a century. In 1988, he cofounded the Division of Psychotherapy at Icahn Mount Sinai (then the Mount Sinai School of Medicine), and served as its director for nearly three decades. Dr. Swiller was a passionate advocate of group therapy, mentored countless psychiatrists on the practice, and wrote extensively about it in numerous books and papers. A brilliant physician and educator, he was named a Best Doctor by New York magazine in 2021 and 2022, and received Mount Sinai's Lou Linn Award for Excellence in Teaching. His patients knew Dr. Swiller as an insightful and compassionate psychiatrist; colleagues knew him as a wise counselor whom many came to for advice. He was a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and a Life Fellow of the American Group Psychotherapy Association. Mount Sinai has lost a cherished colleague and exceptional psychiatrist whose legacy will live on through his tireless efforts to enhance the field of mental health. We express our deepest condolences to the Swiller family, including his wife, Willa, four sons and their wives, 10 grandchildren, and three siblings.
Kenneth L. Davis, MD, Chief Executive Officer, Mount Sinai Health System
Dennis S. Charney, MD, Anne and Joel Ehrenkranz Dean, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai; President for Academic Affairs, Mount Sinai Health System
Rene S. Kahn, MD, PhD, Esther and Joseph Klingenstein Professor and Chair, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai

In Memoriam

ADELMAN—Rebecca "Bess"



5/14/83-4/22/20
On your 40th Birthday and 5th Mother's Day, we love and miss you with every beat of our hearts.
Your Family

CONWELL—Barbara.
In Loving Memory of Barbara Conwell, Feb. 3rd, 1928 - May 19th, 2022
Barbara Conwell's life was anything but "shabby." She passed peacefully in her sleep on May 19th at 94 years young. Survived by her children, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews, she will live on in our hearts. One of her favorite quotes was from Gertrude Stein:
"There ain't no answer. There ain't gonna be an answer. There never has been an answer. That's the answer."

GALLAGHER—Diane.
9/24/56 - 7/19/22
Our first Mother's Day without you. You are always loved and never forgotten.
Your heartbroken family

LEFRAK—Ethel Stone.
Feb. 1, 1920 - May 14, 2013
Her mission was to always do good with a loving spirit and a gentle heart. You are so missed and loved every day and more.
Denise and Family

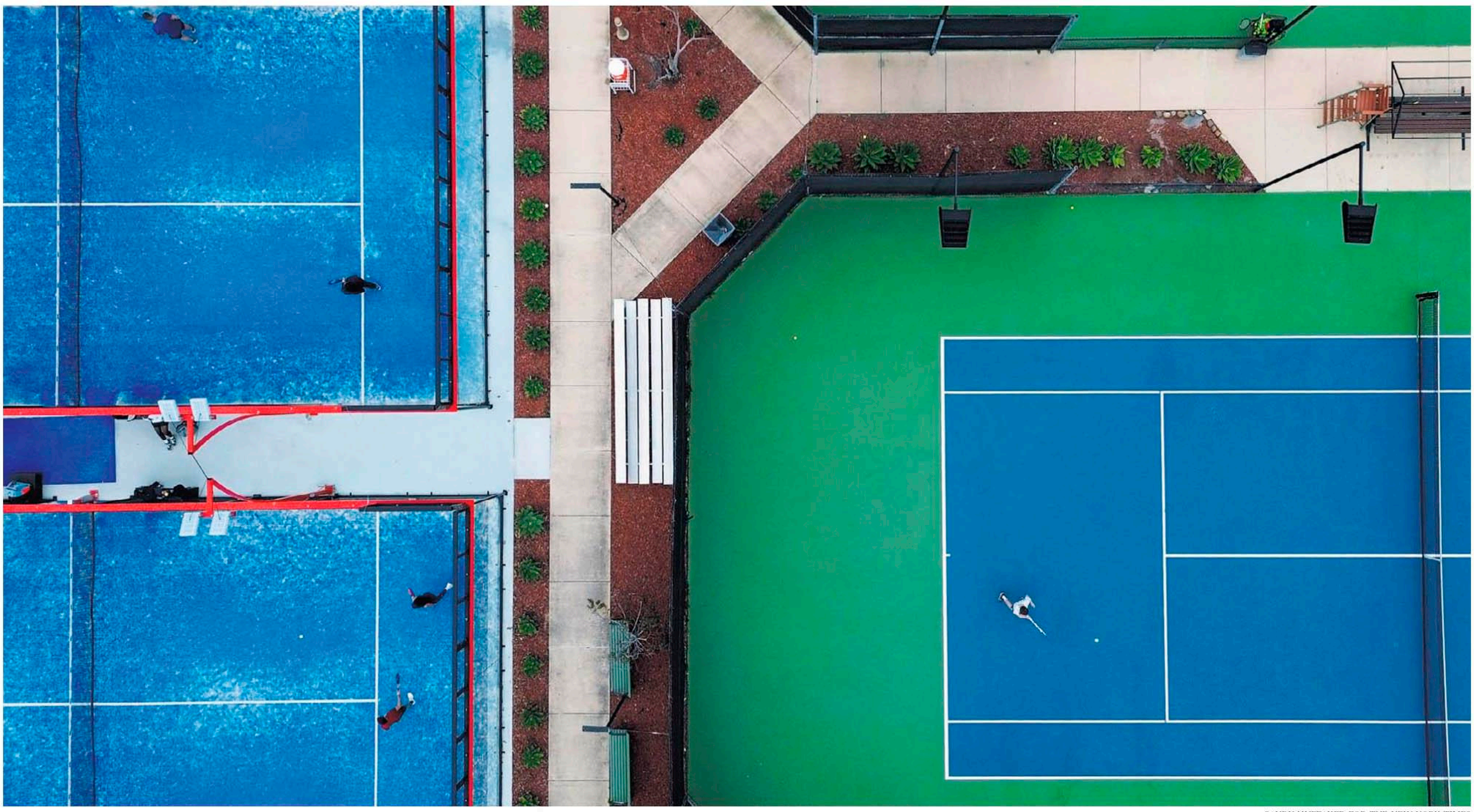
NEWBOLD—William Connor.
May 29, 1999 - May 14, 2022
You left us far too soon.
You are missed every day by your loving parents, brother + sister and all your family.
Heaven's angel now, your peace is what we pray for and your eternal presence in our hearts is what consoles us. Forever shining - Beautiful Boy.

STONE—Bernard.
7/30/29 - 5/12/20
Missing you after three years. Always in our hearts and memories.
Susan and Marta

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF DEATHS MAY BE TELEPHONED FROM WITHIN NYC TO 212-556-3900; OR OUTSIDE NYC TOLL FREE 1-800-458-5522; OR SENT BY EMAIL TO NYTIMES@CLASSIFIEDSPLUS.COM FOR THE FOLLOWING EDITIONS: Until 4:00 PM the day before for Tuesday through Saturday editions, until 4:00 PM on Friday for Sunday's national edition, until 12:45 PM Saturday for Sunday's New York and late national editions, until 2:00 PM Sunday for Monday's editions. Photos must be submitted by noon the day prior to publication Tuesday through Friday. Photos for Saturday, Sunday and Monday must be submitted by 12 noon on Friday.

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SANDY HUFFAKER FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES
An aerial view of padel and tennis courts at the Barnes Tennis Center in San Diego. The facility, which also has pickleball courts, has been referred to as "the Disneyland of racket sports."

Yes, 'It's a Rackets World,' but Can They Coexist?

CHRISTOPHER CLAREY
ON TENNIS

SAN DIEGO — The official name of the facility is the Barnes Tennis Center, but once through the front doors, it quickly becomes apparent that it might want to consider expanding its branding.

"What are you playing today?" a receptionist at the front desk asked of a father and his adult daughter dressed in what could pass for traditional tennis clothes.

"Pickleball," answered the daughter.

"Have you tried padel yet?" asked the receptionist.

"No, but it's on the list," she said. "I hear it's addictive."

Such conversations and choices, which have been standard in other parts of the world for several years, remain rare in the United States. But they will become more common soon. The Barnes Center, with its menu of racket-sport offerings, looks like a template for the future as private clubs and public facilities strive to be more things to more people, protecting themselves economically from shifting tastes while trying to defuse some of the rising tension between the grand old game of tennis and fast-growing newcomers like pickleball.

"I have a good friend who calls this the Disneyland of racket sports," said Ryan Redondo, chief executive and general manager of the Barnes Center.

The coronavirus pandemic, by increasing demand for outdoor activities, gave some racket sports a boost. But that unexpected surge seems to have staying power, which is giving some in the industry hope.

"People get fearful, but I do think overall, we will find that this is good for the industry and will lift all racket sports," said Joe Dudy, president and chief executive of Wilson Sporting Goods. "I'm not saying people won't be worried, but I don't think they should be. There was a big battle between tennis and pickle when pickle started the growth momentum, and there are more tennis players now than when that momentum started."

Tennis participation has indeed continued to grow in the United States after years of stagnation and was up to 23.6 million players over the age of 6 in 2022, according to a report by the Sports & Fitness Industry Association. Pickleball, once a regional oddity with a quirky name, is booming, and not just among the gray-haired set, as it continues to expand its reach into schools. It had 8.9 million players in 2022, according to the organization — way up from 4.8 million in 2021 — with other studies showing significantly higher numbers.

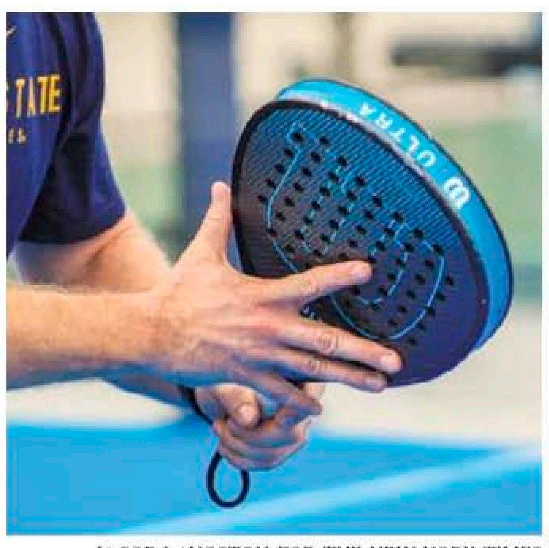
The new arrival is padel, a fast-paced hybrid of tennis and squash contested on a glass-walled court that already has an estimated 20 million players worldwide, according to figures provided by Wilson.

Developed in the late 1960s and early '70s in Mexico, padel has much in common with platform tennis, which was invented in Scarsdale, N.Y., in 1928. Both use perforated paddles and are generally doubles games, but platform tennis is primarily a cold-weather game played on a gritty, elevated surface that can be heated from below to melt snow and ice.

Padel first became popular in Spain and Argentina and is now growing quickly in other parts of Europe, including traditional tennis strongholds like France, Italy and Britain.



SANDY HUFFAKER FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES
An instructor giving tennis lessons at the Barnes Center. After years of stagnation, participation in tennis is growing.



JACOB LANGSTON FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

EVERYWHERE BUT HERE

Padel uses perforated paddles, above, and is growing explosively in many places, but not the U.S. *Page 32.*

Though there are only about 200 padel courts in the United States — most of them in private residences — the sport has begun to attract significant investment, and the pace of court construction has accelerated with facilities opening in Florida, California and the New York area. Redondo projects that there could be as many as 40,000 courts in the country in 10 years.

"It's a rackets world," said Dan Santorum, chief executive of the Professional Tennis Registry, which certifies teaching professionals, who are increasingly seeking certification in multiple racket sports. "A lot of the search firms are looking for triple threats when they are looking for teaching pros for clubs. It's no longer just a director of tennis. It's a director of rackets.

"I think what's going to happen is the triple threat in the North is going to be tennis, pickleball and platform tennis, and in the South, it's going to be tennis, pickleball and padel, although you will see some indoor padel as well in the North."

Some major projects are in the works, none bigger than Swing Racquet + Paddle in Raleigh, N.C., which is set to build 28 tennis courts, 25 pickleball courts, 16 padel courts and three beach tennis courts on a 45-acre plot of land with a 100-year lease from the city. Swing has signed deals with Wilson and Sweden's Good to Great Tennis Academy, which will provide instruction on the Swing campus and whose leadership includes Magnus Norman, a former No. 2 in the ATP rankings who has coached leading players like Robin Soderling and Stan Wawrinka.

Rob Autry, Swing's founder and chief executive, said ground has been broken on the campus, which is set to open to the public next year to a projected one million visitors annually for tournaments and other events, including concerts.

"The idea is to bring in all these racket and paddle sports under one roof and really democratize all these sports and lean into their differences and their own cultures and give them their own little neighborhood," Autry said in a telephone interview.

If it works, the plan is to open more modest multisport Swing facilities in other locations, primarily in the Sun Belt to start.

In the meantime, the Barnes Center is running on 16 acres in San Diego. A public facility, it is still tennis-centric with 25 courts and is a hub for juniors. Last year it was the site of an ATP 250 tournament and a WTA 500 event that attracted a top-tier field.

But the center also has four new lighted pickleball courts and seven new padel courts built on the edge of the property that was not suitable for tennis courts.

That is a best-case scenario at a moment when tensions elsewhere over the use of available space continue to rise between tennis and pickleball players. Similar turf battles have been waged in Spain in urban areas between tennis and padel. Though pickleball and tennis can coexist on the same courts with blended lines, that often leaves both communities dissatisfied. But the alternative, for tennis, often means losing ground, particularly when clubs can fit four pickleball courts on one tennis court and often generate more revenue.

The United States Tennis Association, under its former executive director, Gordon Smith, showed no interest in an entente cordiale.

"Back when Gordon was there, pickleball was Satan," said Stu Upson, the outgoing chief executive of USA Pickleball, in a 2021 interview.

Smith said he had only one issue with pickleball. "Losing real estate," he said. "If someone wants to build pickleball courts, great, but if someone has four tennis courts and wants to make them into pickleball courts, that's different."

Since Smith's 12-year tenure ended in late 2019, the U.S.T.A. has softened its approach, building bridges with USA Pickleball and, more symbolically, building eight pickleball courts and four padel courts at its sprawling national campus in Orlando, Fla.

"The pressures that tennis facilities are under to be able to diversify their offerings to generate more revenue are, I think, very real," said Craig Morris, the U.S.T.A.'s chief executive for community tennis.

Morris, like Autry, is convinced that this is not a zero-sum game: that one racket sport can lead to another as long as there is ample court space available for all the options. But Morris said the U.S.T.A. was involved in research on skill acquisition with Michigan State University to see if pickleball or padel, with their shorter swing arcs, were effective pathways to tennis.

Redondo, a former all-American tennis player at San Diego State who now plays much more padel than tennis, is seeing crossover and is also invested in padel as a part owner of the San Diego Stingrays, a franchise in the new Pro Padel League set to start play this month.

"Our padel players are often on the tennis courts right before or right after they play padel, so there's a really good mix and synergy there," he said. "My belief is that pickleball and padel will start doing that as well and then you will start to have this circulation of these racket sports that can thrive together without taking tennis courts away."

To test out the vision, Redondo and I played all three sports in 90 minutes last month: starting with padel, continuing with pickleball and finishing with tennis, by far the best suited to singles.

The sounds are distinct: from the high pitch of a lightweight paddle meeting a plastic whiffle ball in pickleball to the percussive pop of a denser paddle meeting a decompressed tennis ball in padel to the more familiar *thwock* of strings driving a ball in tennis.

The swing lengths, like the court lengths, vary. A tennis swing is more rotational: loading the legs and then turning the hips with the shoulders following. Padel is routinely more acrobatic, with 360-degree turns and the need to adjust to the different spins off the glass. Pickleball feels more static with compact swings but also more manic at times with its abrupt changes of pace that demand both deft, considered touches and fast-twitch reactions near the net.

"But the contact point, the pure sweet spot, felt pretty much the same in all three sports," Redondo said.

Tennis, the oldest of the three, does have one major element the others do not allow: an overhead serve. I finished our 90-minute tour with an ace, which was more down to Redondo being a good host than to my power and precision but, in a world of racket-sports change, felt reassuring just the same.



SANDY HUFFAKER FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES
A game of pickleball, which has surged in popularity, at the Barnes Center.

PRO BASKETBALL | N.B.A. PLAYOFFS

Rout by Lakers Starts Golden State Summer On an Uncertain Note

By SOPAN DEB

LOS ANGELES — Whoops, shouts, music and a rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday" were so loud inside the Lakers locker room that they could be heard out in the hallways. Outside Golden State's locker room, there was silence, as those inside assessed what had gone so wrong this season.

To the victor goes the noise. To the defeated goes an unusually early and sullen vacation.

The reigning champion Golden State's freewheeling, 3-point-centric style of play changed the N.B.A. and made Stephen Curry a household name. But on Friday night, the team couldn't muster one last overwhelming flurry of deep shots, bowing out to the Los Angeles Lakers in six games in the Western Conference semifinals.

It marked the first time a West team had defeated Golden State in the playoffs during its dynastic run, which began in 2015 with the first of four championships led by Curry, Klay Thompson and Draymond Green. But this season was among the most difficult of the last decade, marred by long absences for key players, a confounding inability to win on the road, struggling young players, and the fallout from Green punching a teammate, Jordan Poole, before the season even started.

> 'It felt like we were swimming upstream from the beginning,' Steve Kerr said.

"This is not a championship team," Golden State Coach Steve Kerr said after Game 6, which the Lakers won, 122-101. "If we were, we'd be moving on.

"So you can look at the year in total and see all the ups and downs, and there was all kinds of stuff that went on and adversity that hit. But our group stayed together and competed till the end and made a pretty good run."

But "pretty good" has long been below the standards of Golden State, given the stature of Curry, who is widely considered the best shooter in N.B.A. history. And now his team may have to contend with coming back down to earth. It's the basketball equivalent of confronting mortality.

"You're disappointed and kind of shellshocked that it's over," Curry said. "You've poured so much into every season, but going off last year you're trying to defend and give ourselves the chance to keep advancing. It's a tough way for the season to end."

The series against the Lakers marked one of the most highly anticipated playoff matchups in years, pitting Curry against the Lakers star LeBron James for the first time since the 2018 N.B.A. finals, when James was on the Cleveland Cavaliers. But this series ultimately didn't match the hype, with blowouts in four of the five games after a thrilling Lakers win in Game 1. Curry and Thompson struggled on Friday, combining to shoot an abysmal 14 for 47 from the field. Thompson, who made just three baskets in each of the last three games, said this was "probably the worst shooting series I've had in a long time."

Golden State now faces an uncertain summer; Curry called it "unfamiliar territory." With one of the most expensive rosters in the league, and a new collective bargaining agreement aimed at curbing heavy spenders, Golden State is likely to try to bring down costs. It could be a stark transition for the team, given that it went from a rudderless middle-of-the-road franchise to one of the most financially valuable ones with Curry at the helm over the past decade.

"For us, it's an opportunity to kind of take stock of where we're at, keep the confidence that we can come back and be back at this stage next year," Curry said.

It might help if they get off to a better start. This season, Green punched the fourth-year guard Poole in the face during training camp. TMZ published a video of the punch, exposing the internal discord of a franchise known for continuity and harmony.

"Every season is made up of events. Some are great, some are not," Green said after Friday's game. "I think for this team, more of the events that aren't so great were so public, and, you know, that's not something that you normally do. And so the world knows, you know, the tough times that this team has had."



ASHLEY LANDIS/ASSOCIATED PRESS



JAYNE KAMIN-ONCEA/USA TODAY SPORTS, VIA REUTERS

Stephen Curry, above, and Draymond Green, left beside Coach Steve Kerr, had good seasons, but Klay Thompson struggled.

Now Green's career is at a turning point. A four-time All-Star, he has a player option for next year and is expected to test free agency. Green had one of his better seasons this year, but he turns 34 next March, and Golden State may balk at offering him a maximum contract. Green has shown a penchant for impulsive behavior, like punching Poole or racking up technical fouls, for which he ranked second in the league during the regular season. The resolution of his contract is the key domino in a summer of retooling.

"I want to be a Warrior for the rest of my life," Green said Friday. "I want to ride out with the same dudes I rode in with."

This season was a slog for Golden State. "It felt like we were swimming upstream from the beginning," Kerr said.

Golden State started the season 3-7. It finished at 44-38 for the West's sixth seed and had one of the worst road records in the league, at 11-30. Andrew Wiggins, a key contributor to last season's title run, missed more than half the regular season because of an injury and an undisclosed personal issue. Thompson, a five-time All-Star, struggled to find his shot in the first third of the season, and he has noticeably slowed on defense after two major injuries in recent years.

If Thompson, 33, has doubts about his future in Golden State, or any skepticism that this team can win again, he didn't show it on Friday night. His contract expires after next season.

"I can tell you, we gave it everything we had," he said. "But I believe that we have greatness in our future still."

Golden State will also have to decide what to do with the young players it has tried to develop while chasing a championship — a path criticized for placing too much of a load on the 35-year-old Curry. Poole, 23, struggled mightily in the playoffs, a problem given that Golden State signed him to a four-year contract extension in October worth up to $140 million.

Other young players, like Jonathan Kuminga and Moses Moody, both 20, were in and out of the lineup all season.

In addition, the contract of Bob Myers, the team's general manager for the last decade, ends this year. Carrying the dynasty into its next stage may fall to a different architect.

If there was one bright spot for Golden State this season, it was its most magnetic figure: Curry. He played some of the best basketball of his career — which meant some of the best basketball that anyone has ever played. In the first round of the playoffs, Golden State faced the third-seeded Kings in Sacramento for a decisive Game 7. Curry scored 50 points — the most ever in a Game 7 — and hit seven 3-pointers. It was a reminder of the magic that had made his teams so great.

But Curry said Friday that reaching the conference semifinals was not "a moral victory."

"There's a lot of pride in what we accomplished," he said, "but there's also an understanding that this is not good enough."

PADEL

Pickleball vs. Padel Provides Another Example of American Exceptionalism

By AMELIA NIERENBERG

SANTIAGO, Chile — There are only a handful of places to play pickleball here in Chile's capital. Next month, there will be one fewer.

In its place, a padel court will rise.

"There's just not enough people for it to be a profitable business right now," said Nicolas Flores, 34, a founder of the Chile Padel Academy, said. "It was a no-brainer."

The two sports took off during the pandemic as people turned to socially distanced activities. They're on parallel tracks. Pickleball is one of the fastest-growing sports in the United States, while padel (pronounced PAH-del) is one of the fastest-growing sports in the world.

The schism is yet another example of American sports exceptionalism. If pickleball is Fahrenheit, padel is Celsius. It's the centimeters to our inches, the football to our "football."

"The U.S. is very particular," said Lisandro Borges, the chief executive of the World Padel Tour in Latin America. He pointed to the Super Bowl, to basketball, to baseball. "It's like another planet."

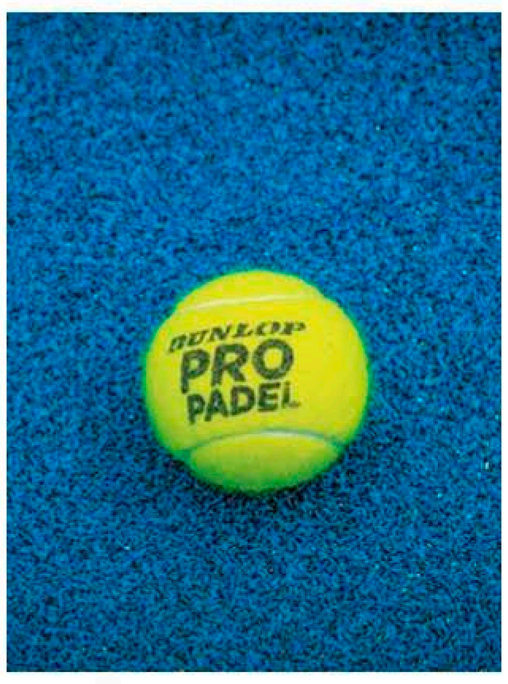
There are marked similarities between pickleball and padel. Both are known as doubles games, though both can be played one-on-one. Both are easy to learn.

But while pickleball looks a lot like tennis, padel, like squash, has walls. Good players can turn to slam the ball off the back wall or scoop it over the net. They dance across the tight court, teasing each other with shots close to the wall. It's volley as flirtation, a tarantella.

Both are easier than tennis, but padel is the faster and more physically demanding of the two. There's a lot more running, and the ball moves faster. It's not a retirement-community sport, no matter the level of skill.

"Padel is legit," said Caitlin Thompson, publisher and co-founder of the tennis magazine Racquet. "Pickleball gets all the hype, but actually, padel is what to watch."





PHOTOGRAPHS BY JACOB LANGSTON FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Players on a padel court (notice the walls), above, at the campus of the United States Tennis Association in Orlando, Fla. Ball manufacturers are already trying to cash in, above right.

The sport, which started in Mexico in 1969, has been played for decades in Spain and Argentina.

During the pandemic, interest in padel boomed in countries across Europe, the Middle East and Latin America. According to Matchi, a platform that people use to reserve time on courts for racket sports, there were an estimated 25 million regular players worldwide last year.

Matchi estimates that about six million regular players are in Spain, the most established market in Europe. In France, padel has been one of the fastest-growing sports since 2020. During the pandemic, it grew so fast in Sweden that the building of courts soon outstripped demand.

In Chile, padel is becoming a national obsession. There are about 600 clubs across the country, and new ones are emerging, Borges said. In March, he oversaw Chile's first international tournament, part of the World Padel Tour.

"Postpandemic," Borges said, "it was like an explosion in Chile."

In Santiago, many sports stores in the Costanera Center, a major mall, display padel equipment in their front windows. The city's existing courts are often fully booked after work hours. More are being built, as interest in the sport continues to grow.

On a recent evening, a padel club here was full, as friends played under floodlights.

One devotee, Patricio Guzman, started during the pandemic. Guzman, 38, never played tennis, but now plays padel four times a week — sometimes five, if he competes in a tournament.

"I'm addicted to it," he said.

Several players had never heard of pickleball. Three brothers in their 50s, who gathered to try padel together for the first time, toweled off after a match. "It's like tennis?" Jorge-Andrés Quevedo asked.

A day later, at the Chile Padel Academy across town, Tomás Bachmann, the head of Pickleball Chile, sipped a sports drink after winning a match. Bachmann, 34, discovered pickleball from his brother, who used to live in North Carolina. He decided to try to bring the sport to Chile about two years ago.

> 'Why would we need this pickleball thing if we are having so much fun with padel?'

But so far, he has sold only about 30 nets and 80 paddles. A group chat for enthusiasts in Santiago, a city of almost seven million people, has about 85 members.

"I don't see a boom with pickleball here," said Sebastián Varela, a Chilean journalist and founder of Clay, an international tennis magazine. "Why would we need this pickleball thing if we are having so much fun with padel?"

Last year, about nine million Americans played pickleball, said Stu Upson, the chief executive of USA Pickleball. That's almost double the players of the year before. A spokeswoman for USA Pickleball said the organization counted over 45,000 courts in the country, which does not include the driveways or the taped-over tennis and basketball courts where the game flourishes.

But today there are only about 240 padel courts nationwide, according to the United States Padel Association, the country's governing body for the sport.

Geography is a major factor, as is word of mouth. Padel was popular in Spanish-speaking countries long before the pandemic. (It made its way to Sweden only because so many Swedes vacation in Spain, or so the theory goes.)

Pickleball, by contrast, is American, born and raised. And many Americans like things that are "Made in the U.S.A."

Upson estimates that more than 95 percent of the world's players are in the United States and Canada. As for padel, he said, "It's on our radar, but we don't see it as a threat."

In the United States, despite the country-club myth, there's a strong history of public tennis. Free or discounted courts bloomed nationwide throughout the 20th century, and Americans typically expect racket sports to be free and accessible.

"We don't join basketball clubs, do we?" said Joel Drucker, a tennis historian and writer for Tennis.com. "We don't join Frisbee clubs. We don't join jogging clubs. We go to some park or some rec center, and we explore."

When it comes to padel, the sport is growing in the United States, even if it is still mostly at private clubs. The number of courts in the country is expected to double to 500 from 240 in the next 12 months, said Marcos del Pilar, the president of the United States Padel Association. Dozens more courts are planned in California, North Carolina and Florida, where regular players say it's already hard to book court time. And in Texas, the sport is gaining popularity.

There are also professional tours, which are planting their respective flags. (Pickleball already has professional tournaments, although it is trying to convince people to watch them.) This weekend in Florida, the Pro Padel League will start its inaugural season in the Tampa area.

Del Pilar, who is also the commissioner of the Pro Padel League, rejected the idea that padel was on the horizon. "Saying that it's 'coming' is talking about three or four years ahead," he said. "It's already here."

SOCCER

English Soccer: It's Not All About Hooligans Anymore

RORY SMITH

ON SOCCER

Manchester City had been in possession of the ball for a minute, but to the denizens of the Santiago Bernabéu, it felt like an hour or more. Pep Guardiola's team moved it backward and forward and then backward again. It switched it from side to side, sometimes via the scenic route, stopping off to admire the view from midfield, and sometimes taking the express.

Real Madrid's players did not seem especially concerned about this state of affairs. They would have known as they prepared for their Champions League semifinal that there would be phases when there was little they could do beyond watch City move the ball around. The danger, in those moments, is allowing your concentration to flicker, just for a moment, to be mesmerized by the swirling patterns.

The crowd, though, did not like it one bit. The modern Real Madrid might be a dichotomy of convenience — simultaneously seeing itself as the game's greatest statesman and nothing but a scrappy underdog — but there are some boundaries its fans are not willing to cross.

The idea that a visitor should come to the Bernabéu and look as comfortable as Manchester City did, in that spell on Tuesday night, was clearly one of them. Guardiola's team looked so thoroughly at home that it might as well have had its feet on the coffee table and a wash in the machine.

And so the crowd started first to whistle, and then to jeer. Boos washed down the stands, designed to encourage Real's players to break out of their defensive phalanx, to reassert their primordial right to dominance.

It was hard not to be struck by the oddness of the scene. The idea that English teams arrive at Europe's great citadels with a technical deficit is horribly outdated. The idea that English soccer lacks refinement when compared with its continental cousins is, at the elite level, such an anachronism that younger readers might struggle to believe it ever existed.

The Premier League's emissaries have, between them, conquered all of the most revered territory in Europe over the last couple of decades. It was as long ago as 2006 that Arsenal became the first English team to win at the Bernabéu. A couple of years later, Arsène Wenger's team did the same thing to A.C. Milan at San Siro. Manchester United, Chelsea, Liverpool and City itself have all won at Camp Nou or the Allianz Arena or one of the European game's other sacred spaces.

Some of these victories have been rooted in defensive obduracy and surgical precision in attack. Sometimes, they have been won by greater physicality, higher intensity — England's traditional virtues repurposed as weapons. One or two of them might have been a little bit lucky.

Increasingly, though, they win by inflicting on Europe's great and good the sort of treatment that England's teams had to endure for so long. They have, with mounting frequency, displayed a level of tactical sophistication and technical deftness their opponents cannot match.

City's display in Madrid might not have led to a victory — not yet, anyway — but the scale of its superiority was noteworthy. In part, of course, that could be traced to the individual excellence of Guardiola's players. The coach, too, deserves credit for the work he has done in shaping and molding this team. City's real advantage, though, was in the novelty of its ideas.

There should be nothing controversial about the suggestion that the Premier League, in its current incarnation, is not identifiably English, not in any real sense. It bears about as much relation to the century of English soccer culture that preceded it, in fact, as the modern Manchester City does to the club that occupied the stadium on Maine Road for all those years.

The colors are the same, of course. Something about the atmosphere, too, is native, idiosyncratic, even if it is all a little quieter these days. Perhaps it is possible to discern a little Englishness in the tempo of the game, in how crowds celebrate corners, in the ongoing appreciation for a thundering tackle.

But for the most part, what the Premier League sells is imported. The players, of course, and more and more of the coaches, too, but everything else as well. The training methods, the organizational structures, the playing philosophies, the strategies, the tactics: All of them have been sourced elsewhere and added to the mixture.

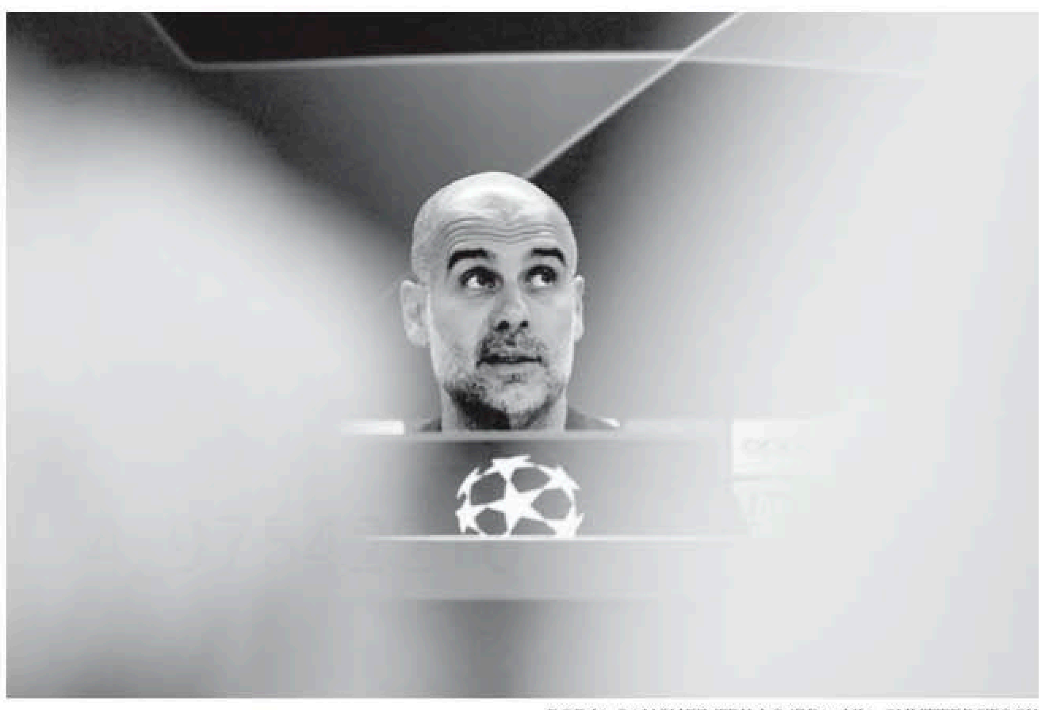
Chief soccer correspondent Rory Smith takes you from the biggest matches to the smallest leagues, covering the tactics, history and personalities of the world's most popular sport. Sign up for his newsletter at nytimes.com/rory.


JAVIER SORIANO/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

Manchester City's Kevin De Bruyne was congratulated by teammates last week after scoring the equalizer in a Champions League semifinal match against Real Madrid.


JAVIER SORIANO/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

Real Madrid's Vinícius Júnior after scoring the match's first goal.


BORJA SANCHEZ TRILLO/EPA, VIA SHUTTERSTOCK

At Manchester City, Pep Guardiola sets the tone for the sport.

That is not a criticism. It is the Premier League's openness — both to ideas as well as to investment — that has helped transform a backwater league into the most engaging domestic competition on the planet. The transformation in England's soccer culture, once so insular, is something to be admired.

But while the Premier League has long been a crucible, it has rarely been a laboratory. The soccer its teams play now is, of course, substantially more complex than it was 20 years ago. There are wing backs and false nines, low blocks and high presses, inverted wingers and sweeper-keepers. Every trend has washed up on these shores eventually (sometimes a little reluctantly). It is a showcase of soccer's contemporary thought.

Rarely, though, have any of those ideas actually emerged in England. Perhaps a degree of skepticism is an enduring streak of Englishness, or perhaps it is a function of the league's wealth: Why experiment when you can, in effect, pay someone else to take those risks for you?

All of the innovations that have changed English soccer have been developed elsewhere, in the start-up cultures of Europe: from Wenger's decree that perhaps athletes should not drink the whole time all the way to the high press preached by Jürgen Klopp, Mauricio Pochettino and Marcelo Bielsa.

It is, then, entirely possible that Guardiola has done something unique this season. He had already pioneered the idea that a fullback might actually be a wing, at Barcelona, or an ancillary midfielder, at Bayern Munich. Now, though, he has gone one step further, and introduced the concept that perhaps a central defender does not need to be held back by a label.

At the Bernabéu, it was the presence of John Stones — both a defender and a midfielder — that allowed City to exert such control. It was the numerical advantage he gave Guardiola's team in the center of the field that meant Real Madrid had to be so passive that it risked the wrath of its home crowd.

Nothing in soccer is ever truly new, of course. All of these positional switches are, as the journalist, historian and Ted Lasso product-placement expert Jonathan Wilson has noted, simply the game reverting to the formation known as the W-M, played as orthodoxy in the 1930s.

Many of them have fluttered around elsewhere, too, occasionally popping up in the least likely of places. Anyone hailing Guardiola's imagination might be pointed to Chris Wilder's Sheffield United, for example, a team that regularly allowed its defenders to moonlight as midfielders without any risk at all of being presented as soccer's cutting edge.

That Guardiola has done it, though, matters. It gives the concept his seal of approval, turns it into best practice. Where he treads, others will follow. For once, the Premier League will not find itself adopting the ideas of others, perfecting and reflecting them to be admired, but with a contribution of its own that it can send out into the world, something that will forever be a little slice of England.

Whither Messi?

Nothing, Jorge Messi would like you to know, is decided yet. His adult son, Lionel, will not be making any decision on the identity of his future employer until the end of the French season. And with good reason. The Ligue 1 title race sure is a nail-biter, and Messi would not want any of the Paris St.-Germain fans who are so devoted to him to think his focus might have drifted elsewhere.

That does not stop the speculation. This past week, there were reports that Messi's "priority" was to remain in Europe; that he had agreed to a deal to sign with a club in Saudi Arabia; that he was talking to a club in Saudi Arabia but had not yet signed on the dotted line; that he was waiting for the green light from La Liga before completing a move back to Barcelona.

Not all of these things can be true, and it is hard to tell if any of them are. There is never any paperwork produced to support any of the claims. There are never any on-the-record quotes from people actively involved in the negotiations. Everything is disguised behind what is, in this case, the coward's or the liar's veil of deep background.

As previously noted, the most romantic conclusion to all of this is that Messi returns to Newell's Old Boys, or failing that Barcelona. In many ways, though, it feels increasingly fitting that he should draw the curtain on his career in Saudi Arabia.

What could better encapsulate this era of soccer than the sight of Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo, the two men who define the modern game, eking out the final drops of their talent in a country that has sought to co-opt them for its own purposes? Perhaps that is where Messi should be. Perhaps Saudi Arabia was his destiny all along.

Much to Savor in Napoli

Among soccer's very worst traits is its obsessive desire to know what comes next. Managers who pull off unexpected successes must be encouraged to move to bigger clubs to see what they might do next. Players enjoying breakthrough seasons must immediately be photoshopped into the jerseys of their many and varied suitors. No achievement is allowed to exist merely for and of itself.

It feels a little reductive, then, to ask what might come next for Napoli. It is hard to think of a less appropriate question. Napoli has waited 33 years to win Serie A for the third time. The city is still caught in a wave of euphoria. This is no time to think about the future. Worrying about all the chores you have to do tomorrow does have a habit of ruining the perfect today.

It is intriguing to consider, though, whether those celebrations might become a rather more familiar sight, as Napoli's president, Aurelio De Laurentiis, has intimated. As the author Tobias Jones has pointed out, Napoli's title was not a stereotypically Neapolitan triumph: It had its roots not in the magical or the mystical but in the comparatively mundane details of intelligent recruitment and adroit coaching. Those are the sorts of things, of course, that can be repeated.

They will have to be. It is not just fans or the news media who assume that success is a steppingstone. Europe's apex predators do, too. Manchester United, Chelsea and Bayern Munich are all casting covetous glances at Victor Osimhen, the Nigerian forward who did so much to carry Napoli over the line. Others are watching the Korean defender, Kim Min-jae, and Khvicha Kvaratskhelia, the edge-of-the-seat Georgian winger.

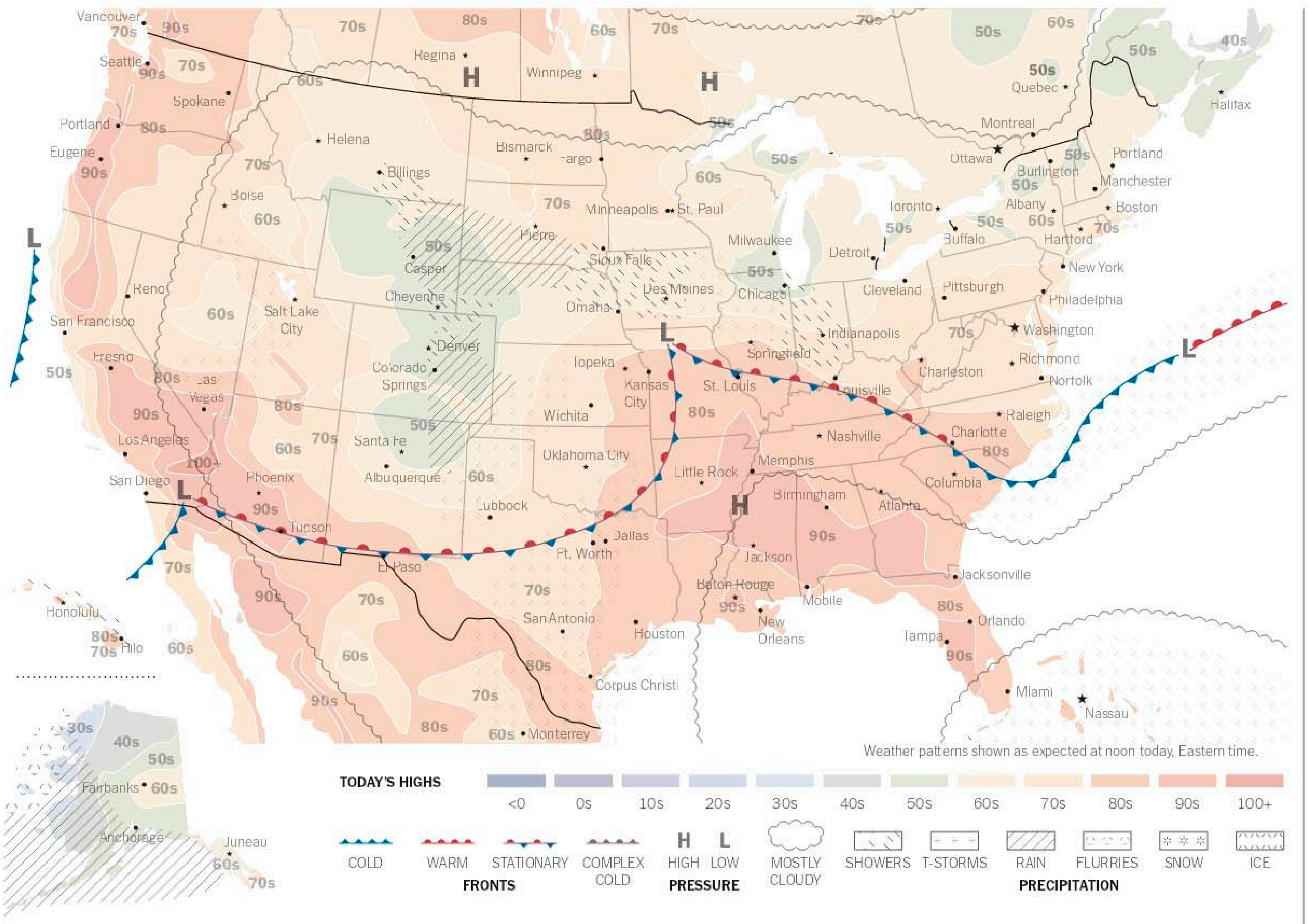
Napoli's plan, as things stand, is to lose no more than one (most likely Osimhen), and then use the fee it receives — $150 million or so — not only to find his replacement but to add further ballast to its squad. If the club can invest as judiciously this summer as it did last, the party in Naples may just be getting started.


ANDREA STACCIOLI/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES

After leading Napoli to the Serie A title, Victor Osimhen is likely to draw considerable interest from Europe's apex predators.

Weather Report

Meteorology by **AccuWeather**



Metropolitan Forecast

TODAY ....Mostly sunny

High 71. High pressure will promote dry conditions and mostly sunny skies. Winds will range between 4 and 8 miles per hour. Temperatures will be around average.

TONIGHT ....Patchy clouds

Low 54. Dry conditions will continue at night with patchy clouds. Winds will be light at 4 to 8 m.p.h. Low temperatures will be around average.

TOMORROW ....Mostly sunny

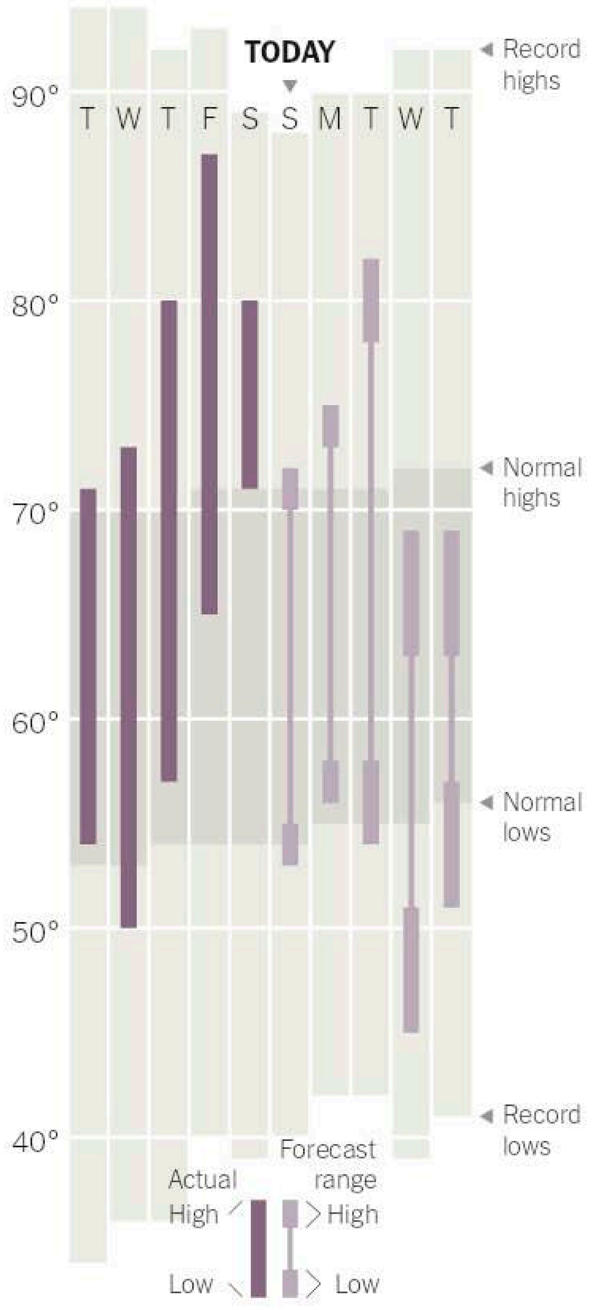
High 74. Overhead high pressure will continue to promote dry conditions with sunny to partly sunny skies. Winds will be light and temperatures will be slightly above average.

TUESDAY ....Breezy in the evening

It will be dry with sunshine mixing with some patchy clouds. Temperatures will be above average. High 80.

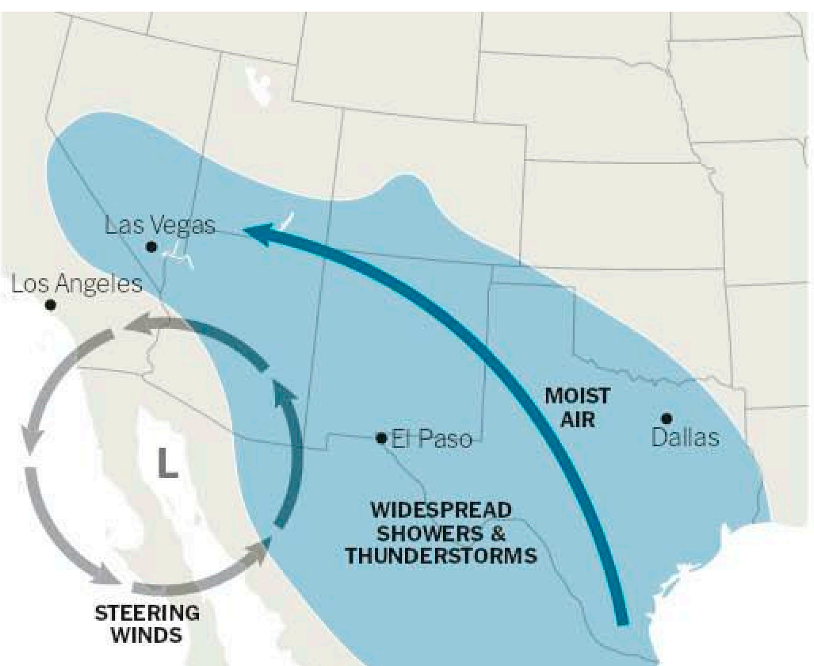
WEDNESDAY
THURSDAY ....Sunshine and clouds

High pressure will remain Wednesday promoting partly sunny skies. High 66. Thursday will feature sunny skies and a light wind. High 66.



Highlight: Rainy Pattern Through the Week

An area of low pressure will draw up moisture from the Gulf of Mexico, allowing for widespread showers and thunderstorms to develop in parts of the South and the Southwest this week, most numerous in the afternoon. Clouds and precipitation will keep temperatures down, with an increased risk for flooding in areas that receive repeated downpours from thunderstorms.



National Forecast

Severe thunderstorms will be possible in the Ohio Valley, with downpours, damaging wind gusts and potential hail from northern Kentucky to Southern Illinois. Thunderstorms are expected to develop near and along the eastern Gulf Coast, mainly in the afternoon, with more widely separated thunderstorms elsewhere in the Southeast.

Farther west, heavy rain and thunderstorms will continue in parts of east-central Texas, with steadier rain expected to stretch into parts of eastern Colorado. Thunderstorms will expand through the Intermountain West during the afternoon from the Four Corners region to perhaps far southeastern Oregon.

Most others will remain dry from the West Coast along the northern tier and into the Northeast.

Metropolitan Almanac

In Central Park, for the 16 hours ended at 4 p.m. yesterday.

Temperature



Avg. daily departure from normal this month .... +1.0°

Avg. daily departure from normal this year .... +4.8°

Reservoir levels (New York City water supply)

Yesterday 99%
Est. normal 100%

Precipitation (in inches)

Yesterday 0.00
Record 1.66

For the last 30 days
Actual 7.73
Normal 3.94

For the last 365 days
Actual 47.00
Normal 49.52

LAST 30 DAYS

Air pressure
High .... 30.04 8 a.m.
Low .... 30.00 5 a.m.

Humidity
High .... 54% 7 a.m.
Low .... 38% 1 a.m.

Cooling Degree Days

An index of fuel consumption that tracks how far the day's mean temperature rose above 65

Yesterday 11
So far this month 30
So far this season (since January 1) 71
Normal to date for the season 29

Trends

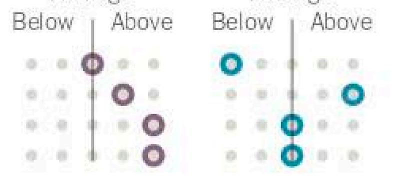


Chart shows how recent temperature and precipitation trends compare with those of the last 30 years.

Cities

High/low temperatures for the 16 hours ended at 4 p.m. yesterday, Eastern time, and precipitation (in inches) for the 16 hours ended at 4 p.m. yesterday. Expected conditions for today and tomorrow.

C	Clouds	**S**	Sun
F	Fog	**Sn**	Snow
H	Haze	**SS**	Snow showers
I	Ice	**T**	Thunderstorms
PC	Partly cloudy	**Tr**	Trace
R	Rain	**W**	Windy
Sh	Showers	**–**	Not available

N.Y.C. region	Yesterday	Today	Tomorrow
New York City	80/ 71 0	71/ 54 S	74/ 57 S
Bridgeport	83/ 53 0	70/ 50 S	72/ 55 S
Caldwell	87/ 54 0.05	74/ 50 S	77/ 54 S
Danbury	86/ 49 0	70/ 42 S	76/ 51 S
Islip	85/ 55 0	69/ 50 S	72/ 52 S
Newark	88/ 60 0.08	77/ 56 S	79/ 58 S
Trenton	85/ 53 0.09	72/ 51 S	72/ 52 PC
White Plains	85/ 54 0	70/ 48 S	74/ 53 S

United States	Yesterday	Today	Tomorrow
Albany	79/ 46 0	67/ 40 PC	73/ 52 PC
Albuquerque	71/ 52 0	64/ 52 Sh	72/ 53 T
Anchorage	55/ 40 0	56/ 41 PC	55/ 40 C
Atlanta	86/ 68 0.04	89/ 68 T	83/ 60 R
Atlantic City	71/ 58 0.40	66/ 54 W	66/ 54 PC
Austin	78/ 66 1.75	79/ 67 R	82/ 65 T
Baltimore	75/ 59 0.25	78/ 55 S	74/ 51 C
Baton Rouge	89/ 69 0.04	91/ 71 T	93/ 70 T
Birmingham	89/ 68 0.04	90/ 69 T	89/ 63 T
Boise	78/ 52 0.02	75/ 56 PC	82/ 53 C
Boston	76/ 53 0	66/ 50 S	73/ 58 S
Buffalo	74/ 47 0	62/ 44 PC	67/ 52 S
Burlington	71/ 42 0	63/ 42 PC	73/ 54 PC
Casper	51/ 40 0.01	56/ 40 C	73/ 45 PC
Charlotte	84/ 67 Tr	83/ 66 C	69/ 54 R
Chattanooga	87/ 65 0.20	89/ 63 T	80/ 59 R
Chicago	71/ 55 0.02	58/ 44 R	72/ 53 S
Cincinnati	77/ 61 0.11	75/ 51 PC	74/ 52 PC
Cleveland	70/ 52 0.06	66/ 46 PC	68/ 50 S
Colorado Springs	60/ 47 0	54/ 48 R	64/ 47 T
Columbus	75/ 58 0.28	73/ 48 PC	75/ 50 PC
Concord, N.H.	75/ 40 0	64/ 35 S	71/ 50 S
Dallas-Ft. Worth	81/ 67 0.85	80/ 67 T	87/ 67 T
Denver	59/ 45 0	53/ 47 C	69/ 48 C
Des Moines	81/ 62 0.90	67/ 48 Sh	71/ 53 PC
Detroit	73/ 52 0.09	68/ 43 C	74/ 50 S
El Paso	81/ 57 0	86/ 64 PC	80/ 60 T
Fargo	68/ 50 0.19	78/ 48 PC	82/ 51 S
Hartford	83/ 49 0	71/ 44 S	75/ 51 S
Honolulu	83/ 71 0.10	82/ 69 PC	82/ 70 PC
Houston	83/ 71 1.11	84/ 69 T	87/ 68 T
Indianapolis	80/ 63 0.08	73/ 51 T	74/ 51 PC
Jackson	88/ 65 0	89/ 66 T	90/ 69 T
Jacksonville	84/ 65 0.06	87/ 67 T	89/ 69 PC
Kansas City	86/ 64 0	82/ 55 PC	72/ 54 C
Key West	86/ 77 0.05	86/ 77 PC	86/ 77 T
Las Vegas	93/ 71 0	97/ 73 S	98/ 74 S
Lexington	80/ 63 0.08	78/ 53 PC	75/ 50 PC
Little Rock	91/ 69 0.08	91/ 72 C	82/ 66 T
Los Angeles	76/ 58 0	79/ 57 PC	79/ 57 PC
Louisville	83/ 67 0.08	80/ 57 T	77/ 55 PC
Memphis	89/ 71 0.08	92/ 71 C	79/ 63 C
Miami	87/ 74 0	87/ 74 C	87/ 75 T
Milwaukee	62/ 51 0.06	55/ 44 Sh	72/ 55 S
Mpls.-St. Paul	71/ 56 0.26	73/ 51 C	78/ 57 S
Nashville	86/ 66 0.28	87/ 66 T	76/ 57 PC
New Orleans	88/ 72 0	89/ 73 T	91/ 73 T
Norfolk	81/ 65 0.12	71/ 57 PC	66/ 57 R
Oklahoma City	75/ 64 0.30	76/ 63 T	73/ 61 Sh
Omaha	82/ 62 0	71/ 51 C	74/ 54 PC
Orlando	89/ 67 0	90/ 67 PC	91/ 71 S
Philadelphia	78/ 59 0.44	76/ 56 S	75/ 55 PC
Phoenix	99/ 74 0	100/ 76 S	101/ 77 C
Pittsburgh	71/ 53 0.14	73/ 49 PC	72/ 48 PC
Portland, Me.	72/ 43 0	64/ 40 S	71/ 55 S
Portland, Ore.	93/ 61 0	92/ 64 S	89/ 58 T
Providence	82/ 49 0	70/ 45 S	73/ 54 S
Raleigh	85/ 64 0.08	82/ 60 C	65/ 52 R
Reno	81/ 53 0	76/ 52 PC	84/ 50 S
Richmond	80/ 60 0.42	77/ 56 PC	69/ 49 R
Rochester	73/ 45 0	60/ 40 PC	70/ 53 PC
Sacramento	94/ 59 0	87/ 56 S	88/ 56 S
Salt Lake City	69/ 54 0	76/ 60 T	82/ 59 PC
San Antonio	76/ 67 2.97	77/ 68 R	81/ 66 T
San Diego	67/ 59 0	68/ 61 PC	71/ 62 PC
San Francisco	78/ 55 0	73/ 56 PC	71/ 54 PC
San Jose	87/ 59 0	82/ 57 PC	83/ 57 PC
San Juan	87/ 76 0.15	89/ 76 Sh	89/ 75 C
Seattle	84/ 60 0	90/ 62 S	85/ 59 T
Sioux Falls	74/ 54 0.31	71/ 48 Sh	74/ 52 PC
Spokane	81/ 55 0	81/ 57 S	81/ 57 C
St. Louis	89/ 69 0.20	89/ 57 T	78/ 56 PC
St. Thomas	87/ 79 0.07	87/ 78 C	86/ 78 C
Syracuse	74/ 43 0	60/ 37 PC	70/ 53 PC
Tampa	91/ 73 0.04	92/ 73 PC	92/ 75 S
Toledo	72/ 56 0.16	65/ 44 C	77/ 51 S
Tucson	95/ 67 0	95/ 69 S	92/ 69 T
Tulsa	83/ 68 0.20	85/ 66 T	76/ 63 Sh
Virginia Beach	80/ 65 0.21	72/ 58 PC	66/ 57 R
Washington	73/ 59 0.25	78/ 57 S	71/ 53 C
Wichita	84/ 66 0	77/ 60 T	68/ 58 PC
Wilmington, Del.	72/ 58 0.70	77/ 53 S	75/ 52 PC

Africa	Yesterday	Today	Tomorrow
Algiers	66/ 60 0.60	67/ 53 R	74/ 54 PC
Cairo	82/ 62 0	87/ 63 PC	90/ 66 S
Cape Town	64/ 53 0	70/ 50 S	70/ 51 S
Dakar	81/ 73 0	81/ 73 S	80/ 73 S
Johannesburg	71/ 50 0	63/ 46 T	61/ 46 T
Nairobi	77/ 61 0	77/ 59 T	79/ 60 R
Tunis	75/ 63 0	70/ 60 R	67/ 61 Sh

Asia/Pacific	Yesterday	Today	Tomorrow
Baghdad	101/ 80 0	93/ 70 PC	95/ 65 PC
Bangkok	97/ 77 0.15	96/ 83 T	98/ 82 PC
Beijing	83/ 53 0	86/ 58 C	96/ 67 S
Damascus	82/ 57 0	89/ 55 S	91/ 60 S
Hong Kong	78/ 73 0.47	74/ 71 Sh	83/ 75 PC
Jakarta	93/ 79 0.16	91/ 77 S	90/ 76 T
Jerusalem	74/ 57 0	80/ 56 PC	85/ 61 S
Karachi	97/ 81 0	95/ 82 W	95/ 82 W
Manila	95/ 77 0	91/ 80 T	92/ 80 T
Mumbai	93/ 83 0	93/ 84 PC	92/ 84 PC
New Delhi	108/ 75 0	105/ 83 PC	109/ 85 PC
Riyadh	102/ 78 0	103/ 77 S	102/ 79 C
Seoul	74/ 50 Tr	76/ 50 PC	81/ 58 PC
Shanghai	84/ 62 0	93/ 70 PC	99/ 68 PC
Singapore	93/ 80 0	92/ 81 PC	92/ 79 T
Sydney	70/ 54 0.14	67/ 54 Sh	69/ 53 Sh
Taipei City	80/ 69 0	80/ 68 R	87/ 72 C
Tehran	93/ 70 0	85/ 59 S	79/ 55 S
Tokyo	66/ 57 0.22	70/ 60 Sh	66/ 59 R

Europe	Yesterday	Today	Tomorrow
Amsterdam	70/ 54 0	69/ 49 C	61/ 47 Sh
Athens	72/ 54 0	72/ 59 C	76/ 62 Sh
Berlin	70/ 52 0	70/ 49 C	67/ 49 Sh
Brussels	68/ 52 0	68/ 48 C	60/ 46 Sh
Budapest	57/ 48 0.18	61/ 53 C	68/ 55 T
Copenhagen	68/ 48 0	67/ 48 C	67/ 50 Sh
Dublin	61/ 39 0	57/ 38 R	59/ 38 PC
Edinburgh	61/ 38 0	59/ 38 C	58/ 41 Sh
Frankfurt	68/ 52 0.01	70/ 50 C	69/ 50 Sh
Geneva	63/ 52 0.02	64/ 48 R	65/ 50 Sh
Helsinki	72/ 45 0	73/ 42 C	71/ 49 C
Istanbul	63/ 50 0	68/ 55 PC	74/ 58 C
Kyiv	73/ 48 0	75/ 52 C	75/ 56 C
Lisbon	73/ 55 0	76/ 56 S	74/ 56 S
London	54/ 48 0	69/ 51 C	59/ 42 Sh
Madrid	68/ 45 0	70/ 45 PC	73/ 44 PC
Moscow	72/ 50 0	60/ 44 PC	67/ 47 C
Nice	66/ 54 0.30	66/ 56 R	68/ 59 Sh
Oslo	68/ 48 0	73/ 47 C	68/ 48 Sh
Paris	68/ 52 0	70/ 49 Sh	60/ 44 C
Prague	55/ 48 0.06	63/ 49 C	59/ 45 R
Rome	61/ 54 0.04	68/ 52 R	71/ 57 T
St. Petersburg	67/ 46 0	71/ 49 PC	73/ 50 C
Stockholm	68/ 41 0	74/ 44 C	69/ 46 C
Vienna	54/ 50 0.06	56/ 51 R	64/ 50 T
Warsaw	72/ 46 0.02	74/ 54 C	59/ 51 Sh

North America	Yesterday	Today	Tomorrow
Acapulco	78/ 73 0	89/ 75 C	90/ 75 S
Bermuda	70/ 65 0	74/ 67 S	75/ 66 C
Edmonton	54/ 50 0	81/ 48 W	84/ 50 S
Guadalajara	66/ 57 0	88/ 56 PC	89/ 56 S
Havana	75/ 72 0	86/ 67 T	87/ 69 T
Kingston	86/ 80 0	90/ 79 W	90/ 80 W
Martinique	86/ 75 0	89/ 77 C	88/ 77 C
Mexico City	61/ 56 0	76/ 53 PC	77/ 54 R
Monterrey	72/ 70 0.15	77/ 67 T	82/ 66 R
Montreal	68/ 48 0	64/ 45 S	67/ 52 C
Nassau	79/ 74 0.05	83/ 74 R	84/ 74 C
Panama City	82/ 74 0.07	92/ 76 T	90/ 75 T
Quebec City	55/ 43 0	63/ 42 S	64/ 45 C
Santo Domingo	81/ 72 0.01	90/ 73 T	90/ 75 C
Toronto	64/ 57 0	62/ 43 PC	70/ 54 PC
Vancouver	57/ 52 0	76/ 57 S	77/ 57 S
Winnipeg	61/ 52 0	79/ 51 S	84/ 52 S

South America	Yesterday	Today	Tomorrow
Buenos Aires	63/ 56 0	73/ 59 PC	72/ 60 S
Caracas	83/ 74 0	89/ 74 T	89/ 74 T
Lima	72/ 66 0	75/ 67 S	74/ 67 PC
Quito	54/ 46 0	68/ 48 R	67/ 45 Sh
Recife	84/ 75 0	88/ 76 Sh	88/ 75 S
Rio de Janeiro	70/ 66 0.10	76/ 68 S	77/ 68 S
Santiago	57/ 46 0	78/ 48 S	66/ 46 PC

Recreational Forecast

Sun, Moon and Planets

New	First Quarter	Full	Last Quarter
May 19 11:54 a.m.	May 27	June 3 11:42 p.m.	June 10

Sun	**RISE**	5:40 a.m.	**Moon**	**R**	3:15 a.m.
	SET	8:05 p.m.		**S**	2:42 p.m.
	NEXT R	5:39 a.m.		**R**	3:39 a.m.
Jupiter	**R**	4:40 a.m.	**Mars**	**R**	9:56 a.m.
	S	5:58 p.m.		**S**	12:50 a.m.
Saturn	**R**	2:36 a.m.	**Venus**	**R**	8:19 a.m.
	S	1:28 p.m.		**S**	11:45 p.m.

Boating

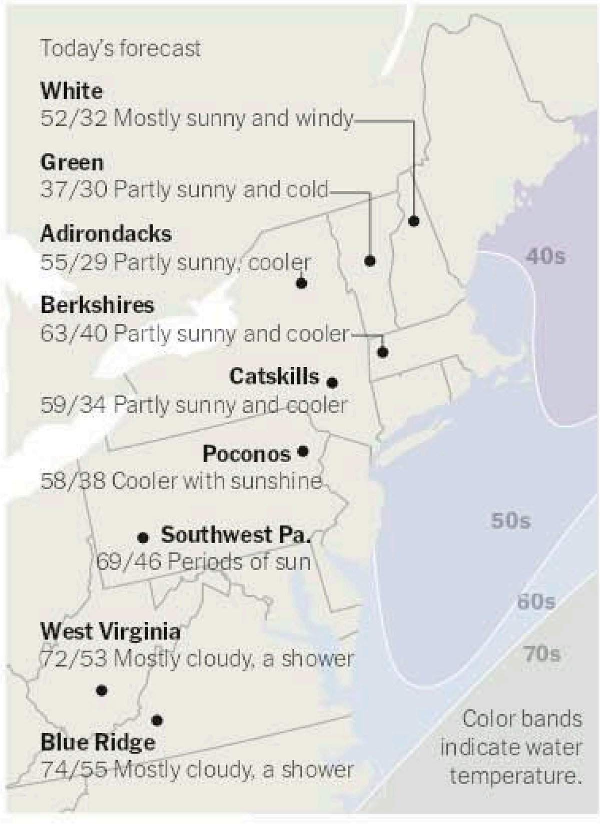
From Montauk Point to Sandy Hook, N.J., out to 20 nautical miles, including Long Island Sound and New York Harbor.

Winds will be out of the north at 5-10 knots. Waves will be around a foot on New York Harbor and Long Island Sound and 2-3 feet on the open ocean. Visibility generally unrestricted to the horizon.

High Tides

Atlantic City	3:37 a.m.	4:22 p.m.
Barnegat Inlet	3:47 a.m.	4:30 p.m.
The Battery	4:20 a.m.	5:05 p.m.
Beach Haven	5:08 a.m.	5:49 p.m.
Bridgeport	7:27 a.m.	8:02 p.m.
City Island	7:56 a.m.	8:34 p.m.
Fire Island Lt.	4:36 a.m.	5:17 p.m.
Montauk Point	5:14 a.m.	5:53 p.m.
Northport	7:41 a.m.	8:16 p.m.
Port Washington	8:00 a.m.	8:37 p.m.
Sandy Hook	3:50 a.m.	4:31 p.m.
Shinnecock Inlet	3:41 a.m.	4:19 p.m.
Stamford	7:36 a.m.	8:10 p.m.
Tarrytown	6:09 a.m.	6:54 p.m.
Willets Point	7:54 a.m.	8:29 p.m.

Mountain and Ocean Temperatures



High pressure moving into the region will promote dry conditions across the Northeast. It will also be cooler compared to recent days, with temperatures at or slightly below averages for May. A storm will spread showers and thunderstorms across the Blue Ridge Mountains.

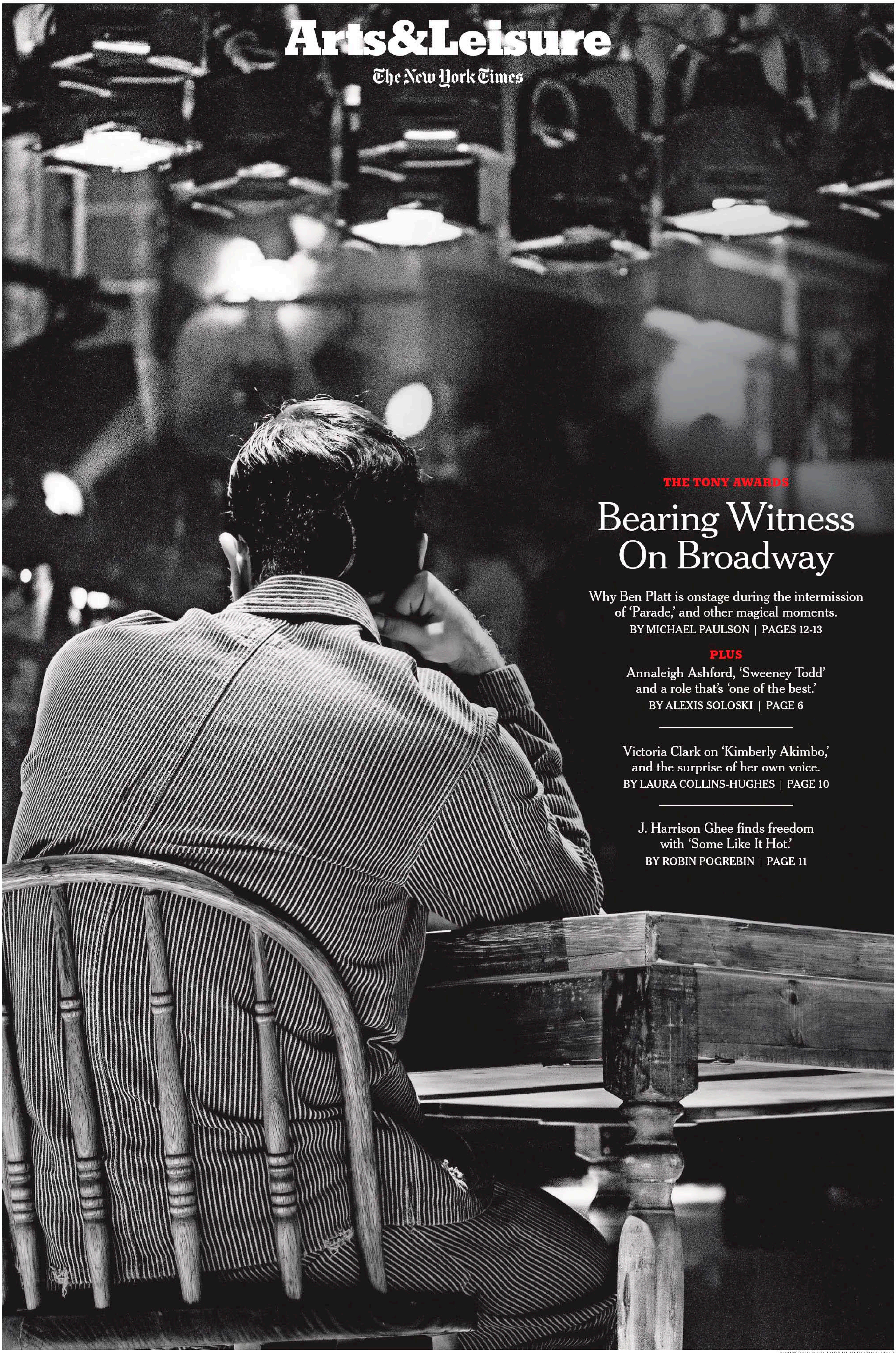
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THE TONY AWARDS

Bearing Witness On Broadway

Why Ben Platt is onstage during the intermission of 'Parade,' and other magical moments.

BY MICHAEL PAULSON | PAGES 12-13

PLUS

Annaleigh Ashford, 'Sweeney Todd' and a role that's 'one of the best.'

BY ALEXIS SOLOSKI | PAGE 6

Victoria Clark on 'Kimberly Akimbo,' and the surprise of her own voice.

BY LAURA COLLINS-HUGHES | PAGE 10

J. Harrison Ghee finds freedom with 'Some Like It Hot.'

BY ROBIN POGREBIN | PAGE 11

CHRISTOPHER LEE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

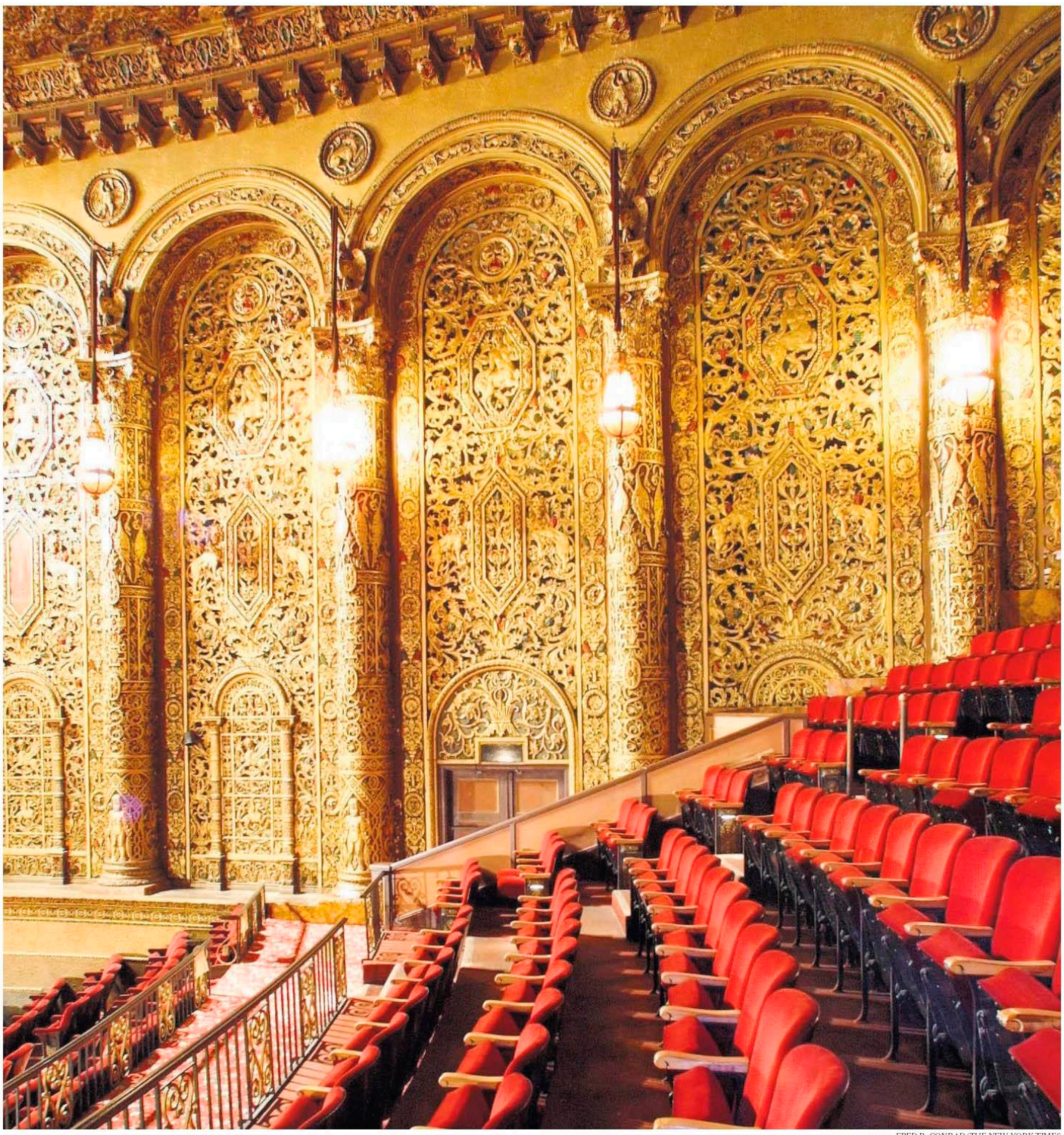
Ben Platt, a Tony nominee for his performance as a wrongfully imprisoned man in "Parade," remains silent during the musical's intermission. "I try to dissociate," he says.



Inside Culture

THIS WEEK FROM THE ARTS DESK

FROM THE ARCHIVES



FRED R. CONRAD/THE NEW YORK TIMES

The ceremony for this year's Tony Awards is scheduled for June 11 at the United Palace, whose ornate interior can be seen in this 2001 photo. The United Palace, which has 3,400 seats, opened in 1930 as a movie theater and has since been used for religious and cultural activities. Now a landmark building, its fans include the "Hamilton" creator Lin-Manuel Miranda, who set his first Broadway musical, "In the Heights," in Washington Heights, the same Manhattan neighborhood where the theater is.

AMPLIFIER

Moogs and Muppets, for Just a Little Money

By LINDSAY ZOLADZ

I've been shopping at the Academy Records Annex (the Brooklyn offshoot of Academy Records on 12th Street in Manhattan) for long enough that I've visited it in three different locations: its huge former home on North Sixth Street in Williamsburg; the Greenpoint spot it moved to in 2013 right by the East River; and, now, its brand-new store in the same neighborhood, at 242 Banker Street. My latest visit was particularly fruitful — especially in the dollar bins — and I've put together a playlist from the records I bought that day. It's fun, breezy and, as you'll see at the very end, contains a few unexpected musical connections.

1. THE MOOG MACHINE: 'GET BACK'

I have a morbid fascination with the many novelty synthesizer records that were pumped out in the late 1960s after Wendy Carlos's "Switched-On Bach" became an unexpected commercial hit. By 1970, there was "Switched-On Country," "Switched-On Bacharach" (clever) and my personal favorite in title if not in execution, "Switched-On Santa." I did not own a copy of "Switched-On Rock," one of the most popular of the bunch, and when I saw a cheap one in the crates, I could not resist. Please enjoy what I hope is one of the strangest Beatles covers you'll ever hear, centered around a Moog modular synthesizer just five years after it was invented.

2. OTIS REDDING: 'MR. PITIFUL' (LIVE AT THE WHISKEY A GO GO, 1966)

A year before his death, Otis Redding played a seven-show residency at the Whiskey a Go Go, the famed Los Angeles rock club. This performance of Redding's own "Mr. Pitiful" is just a taste of the brilliance that the audience (which, according to the liner notes, on this night included Bob Dylan) witnessed at those shows. It comes from the 10-track "In Person at the Whiskey a Go Go," which was released in 1968. But if you're looking for more Otis (and really, who isn't?), a comprehensive boxed set of the complete Whiskey recordings was released in 2016.



LINDSAY ZOLADZ/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Some of the best vinyl that a dollar can buy.

3. JOHN CALE: 'DEAD OR ALIVE'

Online, I recently raved about John Cale's 1981 post-punk record "Honi Soit." Just days later, I managed to find a copy in Academy Records' New Arrivals section! Record-shopping serendipity is a beautiful thing.

4. TIM HARDIN: 'DON'T MAKE PROMISES'

This superbly talented folk singer-songwriter lost his battle with addiction in 1980, at 39. This jaunty little tune is one of my favorites on a 1970 Golden Archives Series compilation — a record that I totally forgot I already owned. I'm sure I can locate a friend who wants it.

5. ROGER MILLER: 'DANG ME'

Perhaps the best dollar I have spent this year was on an unscratched copy of the goofball country singer Roger Miller's greatest hits. It is scientifically and psychologically impossible to stay in a bad mood while listening to Miller: I have tested this hypothesis many times over.

6. CHUCK BERRY: 'MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE'

Speaking of value (and, oddly enough, telephone operators), I was pleased to find a two-LP compilation of Chuck Berry songs in the bargain bin for just $2. "Memphis, Tennessee" isn't one of his hardest rockers, but it's a favorite nonetheless.

7. KERMIT AND FOZZIE: 'MOVIN' RIGHT ALONG'

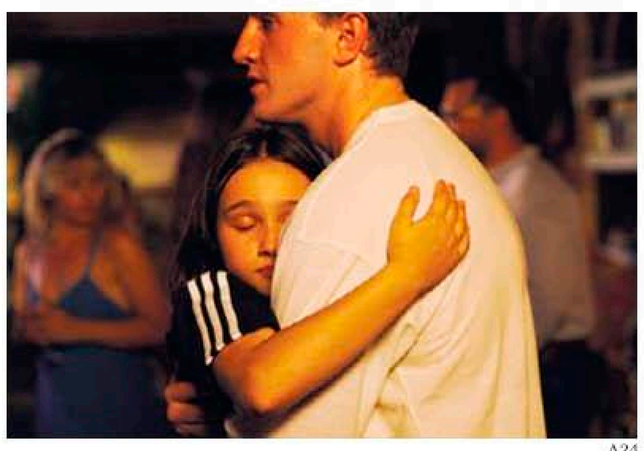
OK, maybe this was the best dollar I've spent this year: a pristine copy of the soundtrack from "The Muppet Movie." The LP cover alone made me smile and filled me with memories of a movie I loved as a kid, but this particular bop was the one that really brought me back. At first I thought I would put it on the playlist as a lark. Then scrutinizing the liner notes of "Switched-On Rock," I noticed a wild coincidence: The keyboardist on that Moog record was Kenny Ascher, the jazz pianist and composer who co-wrote the songs on the "Muppet Movie" soundtrack with Paul Williams. So, unexpectedly, today's playlist ends where it began. I will say it again: Record-shopping serendipity is a beautiful thing.

THE QUEUE

ISABELLA KWAI is a London-based reporter covering international breaking news for The New York Times. Though her job requires her to keep abreast of geopolitics and current affairs, in her free time she tries to escape into the inner lives of other human beings — the more universal the experience, the better. Here are five things she has been watching, listening to and reading.

AFTERSUN
FILM

I don't usually love slow films, and not much happens in "Aftersun," about a father and daughter vacationing in Turkey. As it progresses, though, you see the trip is a memory frozen in time before the momentum of life takes over. It hints at tragedy for the father and uncertainty for the daughter. You will probably cry.

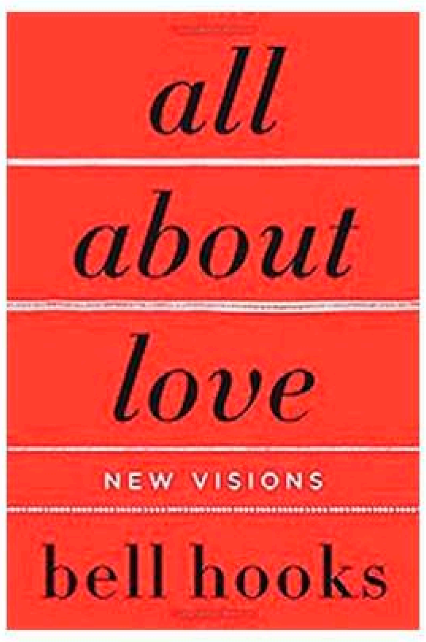


A24

Frankie Corio and Paul Mescal in "Aftersun."

DAR DISKU
MUSIC

It was a spontaneous night out with a friend of a friend that turned into my first encounter with Dar Disku, a London-based collective founded by two friends from Bahrain. Their music mixes Middle Eastern and Asian influences with modern electronic beats. The effect, somehow both timeless and nostalgic, kept everyone cavorting into the early hours.



ALL ABOUT LOVE
BOOK

This classic by the feminist writer bell hooks was published over 20 years ago, but her reflections on love still feel fresh. Part self-exploration, part dissection, the book identifies a scarcity of love in society and offers a road map on how to love across familial, romantic and communal bonds.

@DOSEOFSOCIETY
INSTAGRAM

What did you regret from your last heartbreak? What was the most painful thing you've ever been told? It is not your best friend answering these questions on @doseofsociety but the strangers who often slip by, unnoticed, on the streets. Here though, they stop. And are open about their struggles. The account feels like a collective of longings and wisdom.

PRIMA FACIE
THEATER

I still remember sitting in the audience on London's West End, absorbed in the rawness of "Prima Facie." Alone onstage for 100 minutes, Jodie Comer ("Killing Eve") plays a brilliant barrister from a working-class background who contends with the fallout of a sexual assault. It opened on Broadway in April.


SARA KRULWICH/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Jodie Comer in "Prima Facie."

CORRECTION

An article on April 30 about a new production of "Don Giovanni" at the Metropolitan Opera misstated the year of Peter Brook's staging, with the baritone Peter Mattei. It was 1998, not 1984.



8 TONY AWARD NOMINATIONS
INCLUDING BEST MUSICAL
"SUBLIME CAST = BEST MUSICAL"
Jesse Green, The New York Times
BEST MUSICAL
BEST SCORE Jeanine Tesori David Lindsay-Abaire
BEST LEADING ACTRESS Victoria Clark
BEST BOOK David Lindsay-Abaire
Kimberly Akimbo
a new musical
BEST FEATURED ACTOR Justin Cooley
BEST ORCHESTRATIONS John Clancy
BEST FEATURED ACTRESS Bonnie Milligan
BEST DIRECTION Jessica Stone
WINNER BEST MUSICAL
NEW YORK DRAMA CRITICS' CIRCLE AWARD
DRAMA DESK AWARD
WINNER BEST MUSICAL
LUCILLE LORTEL AWARD
OUTER CRITICS CIRCLE AWARD
BOOTH THEATRE ★ KimberlyAkimbo.com
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AM EX
Illustration by Anita Kunz

Headliner
MY TEN

Diane Keaton Likes a Messy Comedy



AMY SUSSMAN/ GETTY IMAGES

One of Diane Keaton's new favorite pastimes is going for walks by herself, taking pictures of abandoned storefronts. "You can see sadness, but you can also look at the attempts that they made when they were selling whatever they were selling," she said in a phone interview from her home in Los Angeles. Keaton's solitude is broken up by acting, which creates opportunities for her to make friends and meet new people, including on her latest movie, "Book Club: The Next Chapter." It is a sequel to the 2018 film "Book Club," and reunites Keaton and her friends, played by Jane Fonda, Candice Bergen and Mary Steenburgen. "The movie's fine," Keaton said. "I did what I could, you know, sort of." The 77-year-old Oscar-winner spoke about some over her other inspirations. CHRIS KORNELIS

1 Visual Books

I have a whole room full of visual books. They're engaging in a way that moves me. Somebody recently sent me this amazing book of Lee Friedlander's photographs, "Lee Friedlander Framed by Joel Coen." It just takes me back to how the world looked — our world, our country, our cities and people's homes.

2 Fashion

My interest in fashion goes back to my mother. When I was in junior college, or even younger, and I was consumed by what people were wearing, there were other girls who had more money, and they were able to have clothes that I envied. My mom and I would go around to the Goodwill and we would buy old clothes — an old skirt, a blouse — and she would make it into a better version of that.

3 The Beach

My father loved the ocean. He would gather us together constantly to explore all kinds of places that have oceanfront. For almost a year, I've been trying to buy a beach house. It's not like it'd be a grand beach house, but everybody's holding on to their homes. If you go to Laguna Beach, which I love, you can't buy anything.

4 Family

I had this dinner with my children last night, and we were all together, and my daughter's husband was there. It's just wonderful that I have that opportunity. Even as a young adult, I really needed my mother and my father a lot. When I had problems, they were there, both of them. I loved them. They were very much an active part of my life.

5 Miley Cyrus and Ashe

These are two really interesting young women who are taking over music, who I have been lucky to encounter and to get to know a little bit. I like both of these two young women because they're both unique.

'There are things that just take your heart and your breath away.'

6 My Golden Retriever

I have a golden retriever named Reggie. Somebody gave her to me as a gift. Reggie's been a bad girl today. I'm so happy that I have enough room out in the backyard for her to just destroy all the plants. Right, Reg? I love that dog. There are things that just take your heart and your breath away.

7 Tortillas

I like tortillas. I buy tortillas. Just the tortillas. I slap a bunch of stuff inside of it and I eat it and love it. I love tortillas.

8 Comedies

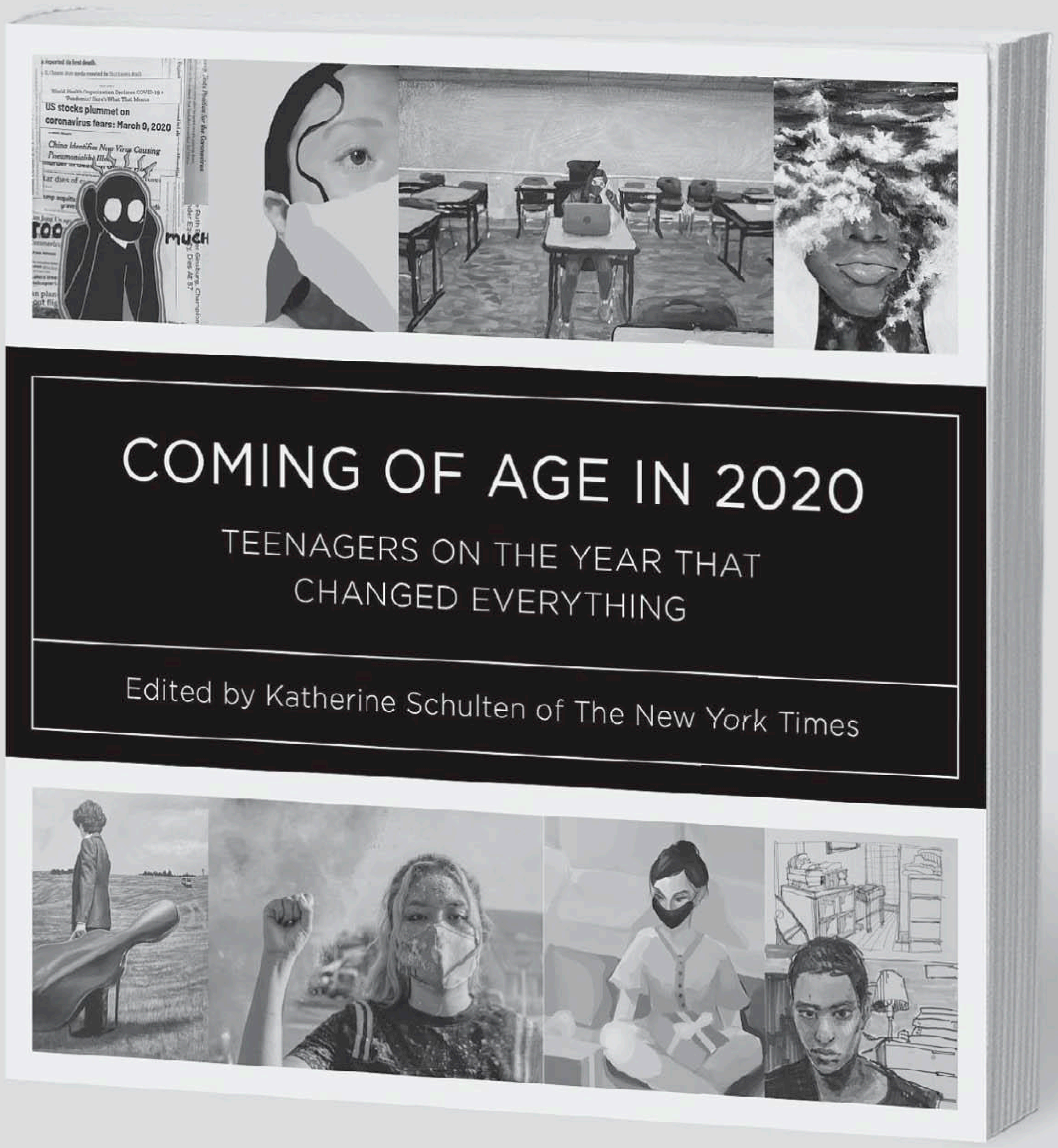
I do feel more comfortable with comedy than drama. I like the mess of it and that it can kind of crop up on you and then you're free to play around.

9 Movie Theaters

It's been a while since I've been to the theater, but I love to go to movie theaters, and it's been really interesting the way it's just kind of fallen apart, but now it's very slowly coming back. I love that. I'm glad it's coming back.

10 My Collage Wall

I have a massive wall of images that I've cut out of magazines or that I've kept. Right now I'm looking at a picture I cut out of a magazine of Buster Keaton. It's so great. What a beautiful face. One is of a truck that has a huge sign that these men are trying to hold onto that says, in large letters, "Damaged." Go figure.


Art and Artifacts by Gen Z

Comics, photos, paintings, texts, charts, recipes and rants
tell the story of how ordinary teens experienced extraordinary events.

from The New York Times

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THE TONY AWARDS



ERIK TANNER FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

In 'Sweeney Todd,' a Role That's Filling

Annaleigh Ashford shows all sides of wicked Mrs. Lovett.

By ALEXIS SOLOSKI

On a round table in her dressing room at the Lunt-Fontanne Theater, Annaleigh Ashford always has a 1,000-piece puzzle in progress. The current one reveals a picture of a cat. Fellow cast members of "Sweeney Todd" slot in pieces as they come and go throughout the night, bringing coherence out of chaos, making a whole out of many parts. It is, Ashford said, "our little homage to Steve," referring to Stephen Sondheim, the musical's composer and a lover of puzzles and games.

On a recent Monday, her sole day off, Ashford had come to the Uncommons, a board game cafe in Manhattan's West Village neighborhood, to find a new puzzle. She would assemble it while she discussed playing the musical's Mrs. Lovett, a pie maker with a grisly approach to fillings. She arrived in a white short-sleeved, high-necked sweater, dotted with outsize ladybugs, and her affect was as wholesome, earnest and embraceably eccentric as her style. If she had worn a flower in her blond hair, I would have expected that flower to squirt.

The Uncommons had just a few puzzles on offer — an image from the game Exploding Kittens, a riff on "A Christmas Carol." Then she saw one more, an 800-piece rectangle titled "Theater District."

"Oh," she said, "we have to."

A Tony winner for a delirious turn in the 2014 revival of "You Can't Take It With You" and a nominee in 2013 for a brash performance in "Kinky Boots," Ashford, 37, has known her way around the theater district for a while. An actress of vulnerability and pizazz, with a voice built for the back row of the balcony, she often finds herself between shows on a Saturday saying a little prayer for the other actors on Broadway.

"Like, have a good show, everybody," she said. "God protect everyone as they take the journey today."

No other journey has required as much of her as "Sweeney Todd," a macabre illustration of a penny dreadful tale about a murderous barber and his accomplice, Mrs. Lovett, who repurposes his victims as her key ingredients. Ashford's giddy parts, her wounded parts, the mother, the lover, the clown — these are all baked into her Mrs. Lovett, a portrayal that has earned her a Tony nomination for best leading actress in a musical.

"Everything goes into the work," Thomas Kail, who directed this revival, said of his star.



SARA KRULWICH/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Annaleigh Ashford, top, a Tony nominee for her portrayal of the pie-making Mrs. Lovett in "Sweeney Todd." Above, Ashford onstage with Josh Groban, in the title role, for which he also received a Tony nomination.

That's what Mrs. Lovett deserves. "She's one of the great characters of the American musical theater canon, one of the best parts ever written," Ashford said. She found a missing piece of the "Theater District" puzzle and clicked it into place, then sat back, satisfied. "How can you ever not love her?"

Ashford, who grew up in Denver, seems to have come out of the womb with her baby fingers doing jazz hands. A child of athletes, she had little physical prowess. So her mother instead signed her up for singing and acting and dance, which she took to with unusual seriousness.

"Even as a little person, it wasn't about just being seen, it was about the telling of the story," she said.

Upon graduating from high school at 16, she enrolled at Marymount Manhattan College — the only New York school that would take her. (She had known that she wanted to be a New Yorker ever since she saw the R-rated movie "All That Jazz" at the wildly inappropriate age of 8.)

After completing her Bachelor of Fine Arts degree at 19, she spent the next three years going from audition to audition, but couldn't land a single callback. Eventually, a part in an early version of "Next to Normal" materialized, as did a spot on a "Wicked" tour. Then Jerry Mitchell, the Broadway director and choreographer, saw her for "Legally Blonde." She was auditioning for the role of Margot, the dizziest of the sorority sisters, a woman who has deep conversations with a Chihuahua.

"She was the only person who actually made me laugh," Mitchell recalled, more than 15 years later. "Because I really believed she was talking to the dog."

Mitchell had worried about her limitations as a dancer. But he found that given time she could master any step he threw at her. Any note, too. Most important, her instinct for comedy proved passionate and unerring.

Other roles came, several of them further variations on the dumb blonde: Glinda in "Wicked"; Essie in "You Can't Take It With You," her Tony-winning part; Sylvia in "Sylvia," in which she played a blond dog. Television has often cast her this way, too. Most recently, as Gina, a kidney donor, in the Chuck Lorre sitcom "B Positive." Lorre, in an email message, described her method as "a perfect mixture of mastery and joy."

Ashford used to struggle, she said, "with playing girls who were not the smartest rock in the box." She now plays a somewhat wider range of characters — shrewd blondes, guileless brunettes — and she struggles less. "Maybe I'm not in a box of rocks anymore," she said brightly.

Her intelligence, of course, has never been in doubt. "Annaleigh is brilliant," said Michael Greif, who cast her as Maureen in the post-Broadway run of "Rent." "Part of the brilliance is how canny and sharp and original that mind is." So original that she asked to wear udders during Maureen's performance-art number, "Over the Moon." (Greif said no.)

Yoked with that mind is a clarity of purpose, tinged with a belief in the divine, which can resemble a kind of innocence. Sarah Paulson, who worked with her on "Impeachment: American Crime Story" and filmed a movie with her last summer, described that clarity as lending Ashford a certain buoyancy.

"She can seem like she's dancing in the ether a little bit," Paulson said. But Ashford also has a seriousness to her, which Paulson described as "a fierce self-possession, this unassailable confidence that is wild to me."

Ashford had her first taste of Sondheim as a child, via cassette tape. She can still remember hearing "Sweeney Todd" in elementary school and finding it so scary and so wild.

With the exception of a benefit reading of "Assassins," her first professional experience of Sondheim was in 2016, playing Dot, the artist's model, in "Sunday in the Park With George." Sondheim often attended rehearsals and would answer any questions.

"He gave the best notes," she said. "They were all about making sure the audience heard and understood the story."

So when the call came about Mrs. Lovett, a role that another one of her heroes, Angela Lansbury, had originated, she answered. Eager to work with Sondheim again, she moved her family back from Los Angeles. (She is married to the actor Joe Tapper, and they have a young son.) She had many questions about the role, but she didn't want to bother the composer. She would wait for the first reading, she decided. Sondheim died late in 2021, just days before that reading. It went on without him.

"We had to show up and do the work," she said. "He would have wanted it, he would have loved that."

Without Sondheim to advise her, she turned to the music, and the text and her colleagues.

Gradually she found a Mrs. Lovett who was younger than the usual iteration and needier. She wants Josh Groban's Sweeney not only as a protector and a butcher, but also, and enthusiastically, as a lover and a husband. ("We always say that I climb on him like a tree," Ashford said.)

Groban marveled at the creativity and seriousness with which she could craft jokes. He recalled watching her put together the number "The Worst Pies in London," experimenting with the rolling pin, the flour, the ball of recalcitrant dough.

"There's so much to play with, there's so much to react to," Groban said. "There's so much that she gives and gives and gives."


Ashford's Lovett isn't only a clown. Or rather her clowning comes from a place of real pain. Ashford can locate that anguish even in a manically silly song like "The Worst Pies in London." Yet in the line "Times is hard, sir," she lets the wound beneath the lyric come through.

"He gives you these little clues," Ashford said of Sondheim. "Because it's a puzzle."

For the answers to other clues, she often has imagined conversations with Sondheim. "I ask for help getting through the puzzles for the night," she said, the puzzles of how to unlock a character's motivation, how to land a joke. "Usually we find an answer. Or at least a version of the answer."

After an hour and a half at the Uncommons, the border of "Theater District" was very nearly complete. A few pieces were missing. It didn't matter. Because Ashford has already solved the more important puzzle: how to take all the wounds and sparkle and joy and pour them into this part.

"I have to be an artist," she said, tipping pieces back into the box. "There's nothing else I could ever do. Thank God, it's worked out."



Through June 2
NEW PRODUCTION

MOZART
DON GIOVANNI

"Magnificent. ★★★★" —*Financial Times*

New York Times Critic's Pick

Magnetic baritone Peter Mattei brings his acclaimed interpretation of the title role to Tony Award–winning director Ivo van Hove's riveting new production. Nathalie Stutzmann conducts in her eagerly anticipated Met debut.

Opens May 19
NEW PRODUCTION

MOZART
DIE ZAUBERFLÖTE

Director Simon McBurney's dazzling production, a magical display of theatrical improvisation, puts a new spin on Mozart's beloved opera. Soprano Erin Morley and tenor Lawrence Brownlee lead the stellar cast, under the baton of Nathalie Stutzmann.

Through June 9

PUCCINI
LA BOHÈME

Sopranos Eleonora Buratto and Susanna Phillips and tenors Stephen Costello and Charles Castronovo alternate as the lovestruck bohemians in Franco Zeffirelli's classic staging of the world's most popular opera.

Opens May 30

WAGNER
DER FLIEGENDE HOLLÄNDER

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Choreographers Shape New Shows

This year's Tony nominees for best choreographer reflect a variety of theatrical dance styles. There's the director-choreographer, exemplified by Susan Stroman ("New York, New York") and Casey Nicholaw ("Some Like It Hot"). But also the choreographers who reflect other backgrounds, like Steven Hoggett ("Sweeney Todd") and Jennifer Weber ("& Juliet," "KPOP").

Jesse Green, chief theater critic, was joined by the dance critic Brian Seibert and the contributor Elisabeth Vincentelli in a discussion about some of the choreographic shifts they've noticed in musical theater. Here are edited excerpts from the conversation.

JESSE GREEN There was an almost bewildering variety of movement on Broadway this season. In "New York, New York," Susan Stroman seemed to channel the great movie choreographers of the postwar era. In "Sweeney Todd," Steven Hoggett set the huddled masses of Victorian London lurching and retching about the stage. In "Shucked," Sarah O'Gleby devised a Rockettes-style kickline for corn cobs. And of course there was the revival of "Dancin'," framed as a "pure dance" tribute to Bob Fosse.

ELISABETH VINCENTELLI I would also add styles that come from the world of pop, music videos and TikTok, as displayed especially by Jennifer Weber — who scored two Tony nominations, for "& Juliet" and "KPOP."

GREEN And some powerful movement in plays as well, like the karaoke scenes in "Fat Ham," choreographed by Darrell Grand Moultrie. Not to mention the cyclone of stage activity in "Life of Pi," which at times seemed like a ballet with puppets. (The puppetry movement and direction are the work of Finn Caldwell and Scarlet Wilderink.) Is this much variety of theatrical dance unusual? And what is it telling us about the role of dance in storytelling and vice versa?

VINCENTELLI It's been a rare opportunity to watch representatives from various choreographic generations and their respective styles over the past couple of seasons.

BRIAN SEIBERT And also the different kinds of influence that a choreographer can have over a production. The director-choreographer role still lives — in Stroman, and in Casey Nicholaw for "Some Like It Hot."

GREEN Stroman and Nicholaw led shows that were intentional throwbacks. Nicholaw gave us a five-minute high-speed chase ballet that was clearly a tribute to Jerome Robbins's "Bathing Beauty" number in "High Button Shoes," from 1947. And "New York, New York" seemed to be referencing Hermes Pan, who choreographed many of the Fred Astaire movies. That made sense because their shows were set in those periods — or even earlier.

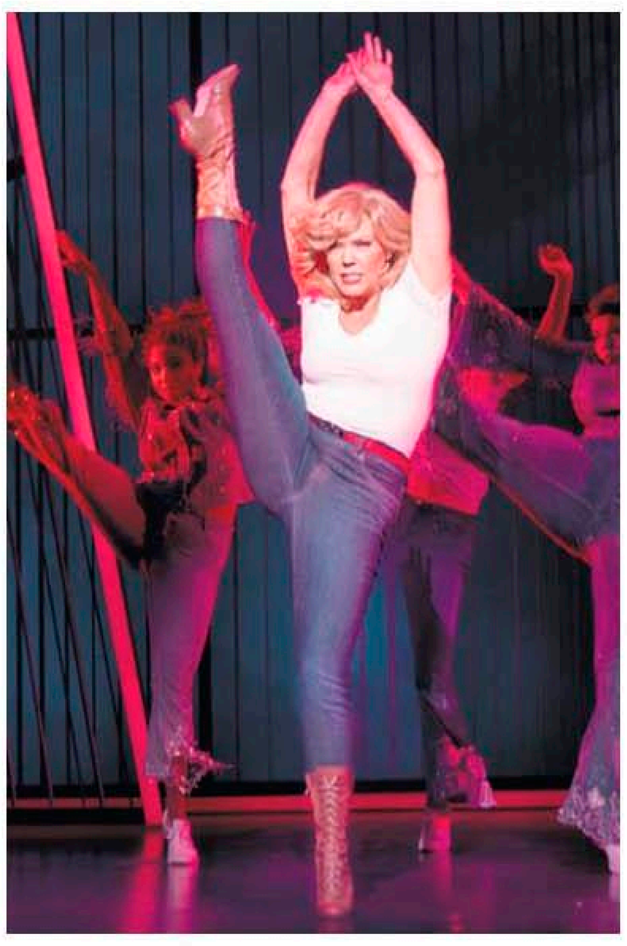
VINCENTELLI I think the director-choreographer style, which goes back to Robbins, Michael Bennett and of course Fosse, is so strongly identified with pre-1980s Broadway that it can feel frozen in that era. Even when the shows are set now. It'll be interesting to see what Keone and Mari Madrid do with the Britney Spears musical, "Once Upon a One More Time" [which started previews on Saturday], because they come from music video, hip-hop and street dance, and definitely don't do period.

SEIBERT I agree. But there are two parts to it. One is control over the show. A director-choreographer show tends to flow like a dance and have dance transitions — sliding and gliding — between scenes. That's true of these cases. But then there's the question of style, a personal stamp, which of course Fosse had, and these choreographers don't. They're serving the show, and when the show is period, they use some version of period style.

VINCENTELLI Brian, why do you think the current director-choreographers lack a personal stamp? I felt Stroman used to have more of an identity, especially with her use of props, but her recent work has been a little more pro forma. My favorite show of hers may well be "The Scottsboro Boys," from 2010, where the storytelling and movement were superbly integrated. But it was not a success and she seems to have gone back to safer, flashier stuff.

SEIBERT You may be right about that. "The Scottsboro Boys" was a high. But it's also just very hard to have both jobs. For me, the period style in both "New York, New York" and "Some Like It Hot" feels perfunctory, a bit paint-by-numbers. It does the job, rather than standing out for its own brilliance and invention.

GREEN I don't know: The tap dance on the girders, inspired by the Margaret Bourke-White photograph, was pretty inventive! Not that invention is sufficient. Take "Dancin'": all style, beautifully so. But the intention of the production, directed and restaged by Wayne Cilento, was explicitly to claim Fosse for the pantheon of pure dance geniuses like Robbins, as if storytelling were an impurity.



SEIBERT That was so weird and false to Fosse's gifts. Instead of pure dance, they substitute odd "scenarios," which are just incomplete stories, excuses to insert classic Fosse bits and preoccupations. It becomes like a dance version of a jukebox musical, with many of the same problems. The best criticism of that show is the Fosse parody number "Do We Shock You?" in the current season of "Schmigadoon": The dancers keep trying to shock us but the things they do aren't shocking anymore, so all that's left is the trying.

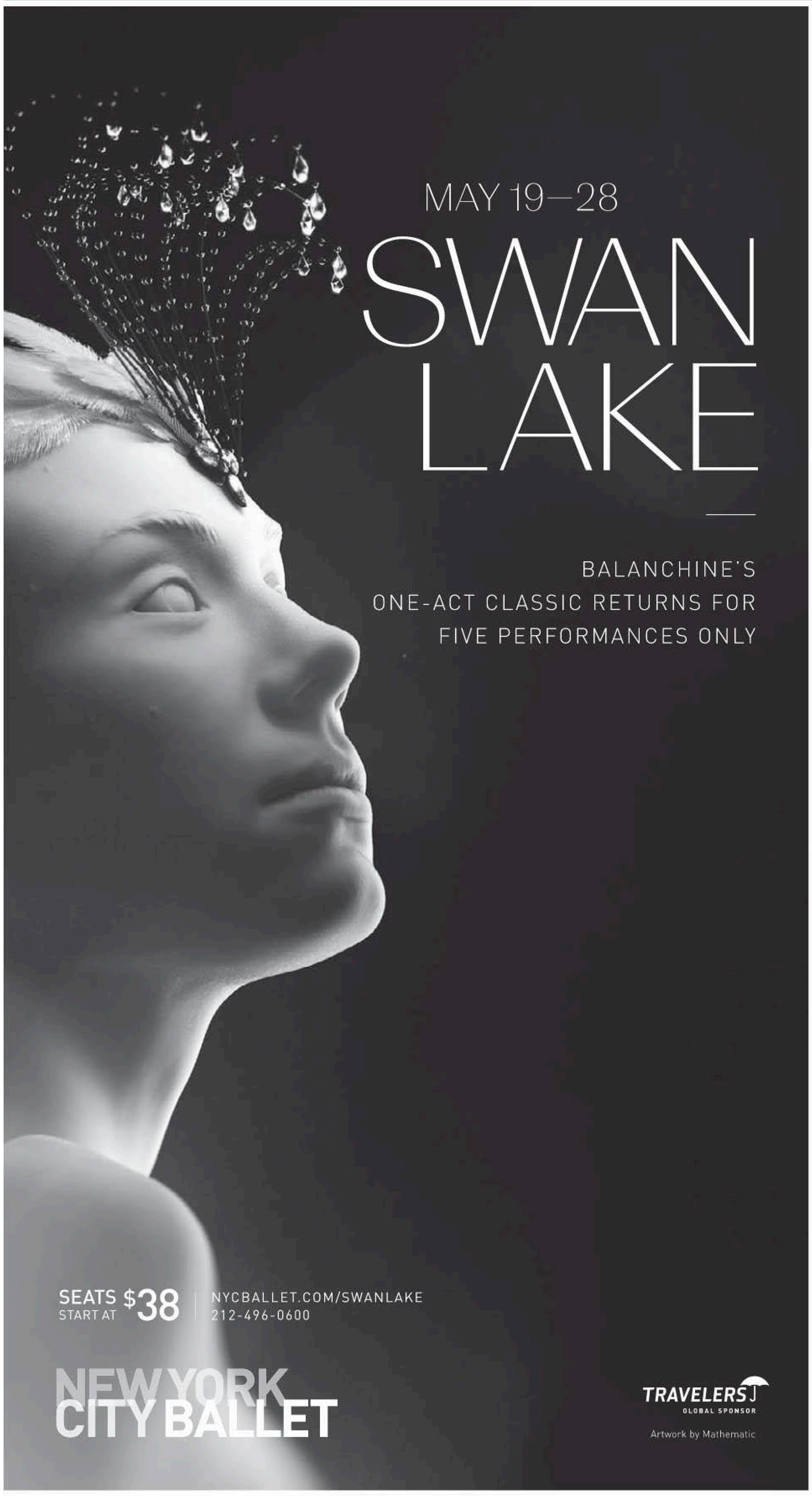
VINCENTELLI As with scores, I don't think choreography necessarily needs to move the story or the characters: I'm all in favor of gratuitous moments. So what if there is no justification for a number or a song, as long as it looks or sounds good? Some of my favorite moments in which the bubble moment is all you can hope for. I didn't think much of "Shucked," but the moment in which O'Gleby had the cast create a chorus line with those cobs was sublime — and expressive of how the story





Clockwise from above: "Some Like It Hot," choreographed and directed by Casey Nicholaw; Robyn Hurder in "A Beautiful Noise," choreographed by Steven Hoggett; and "New York, New York," which Susan Stroman choreographed.

GREEN Elisabeth, you and I often disagree on that point, but I grant you that in some kinds of musicals the bubble moment is all you can hope for.



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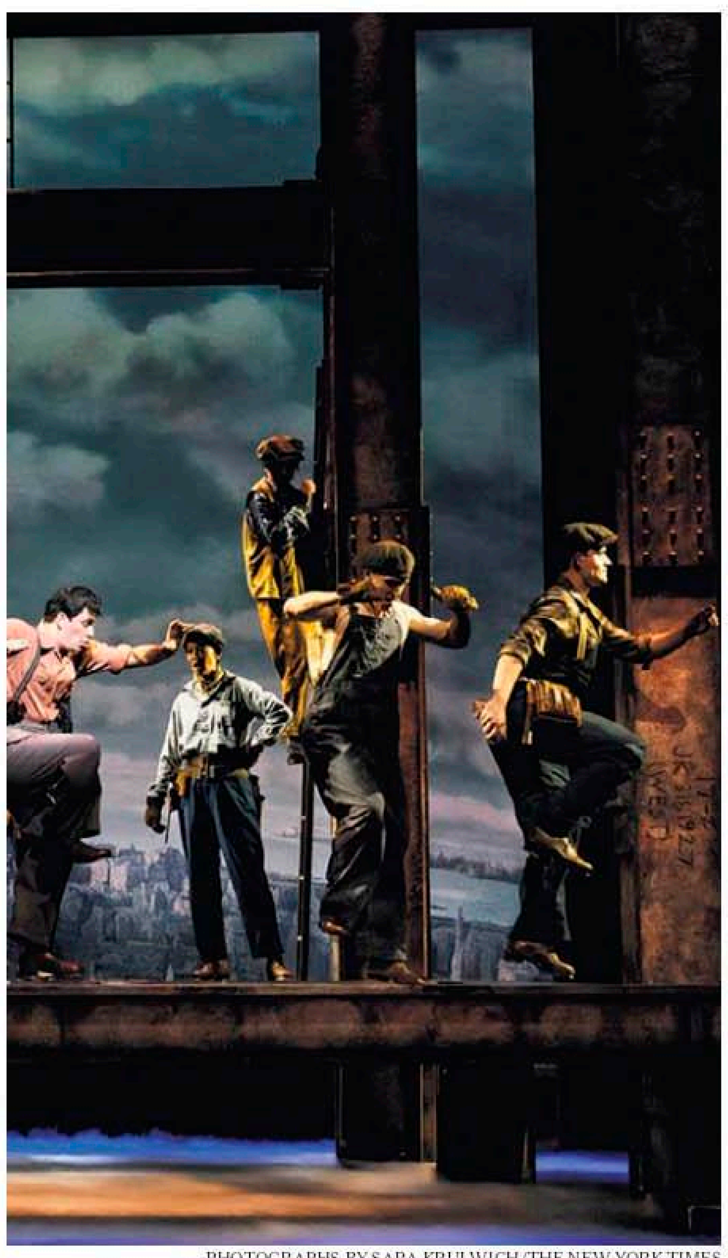
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Clockwise from above: "KPOP," choreographed by Jennifer Weber; Lorna Courtney, center, in "& Juliet," also choreographed by Weber; and Ron Todorowski in a solo in Wayne Cilento's revival of Bob Fosse's "Dancin'."

intended to repurpose musical theater traditions. Otherwise its dancing seemed weakly decorative, unrelated to character. My problem with "New York, New York" was basically the opposite: The dance was strong and effective in advancing characters who were otherwise too peripheral to demand it. And the stories in "Dancin'," however well danced, just seemed gross.

VINCENTELLI I didn't dislike the show as much as you did, but the entire time I felt the production was neutered aerobics with no Fosse sexiness. In fact, sensuality is lacking from much of the current choreography. It's all so mechanical. Am I the only one to feel that?

SEIBERT No, I agree.

GREEN Me too. But was there any show in which the dance really succeeded at what Elisabeth says it doesn't have to: moving the central story forward?

SEIBERT I think Hoggett's choreography — both in "Sweeney Todd" and the Neil Diamond bio-musical "A Beautiful Noise" — fits the bill. He comes out of physical theater and uses gesture, in a kind of style I might call gently expressionist. It probably wouldn't work as well on its own, but bulk and central focus, but it serves these shows.

VINCENTELLI I tend to enjoy Hoggett's work, and his contribution to "A Beautiful Noise" was terrific in a very non-showy, organic way. It was as low-key as Diamond can be big, making for an interesting discrepancy in the show.

GREEN You don't expect such subtlety and emotional expressiveness in material like that. In the song "Forever in Blue Jeans" it also offered an incredibly sexy star turn — reminiscent of Bennett's "The Music and the Mirror" from "A Chorus Line" — for Robyn Hurder as Diamond's proud and angry second wife.

SEIBERT Hoggett doesn't come from a technical-dance background, which can be a limitation but here is a strength. Hurder just looks like her character dancing.

VINCENTELLI Can we talk about the return of the ensemble? "A Chorus Line" was groundbreaking in changing the focus from the ensemble to the individual and thus better carry storytelling, and now there seems to be a renewed appreciation for plotless ensemble dancing. To me it's directly linked to the rise of the music video as an influence.

SEIBERT The music video, and also pop concerts. As we get more shows based on that music, we get more of the dancing that goes with it — in Weber's work, but also with the Madrids. What I find particularly exciting is the dancers who are coming along, too. They have more street-dance percussiveness and freestyle verve. "Broadway style" dance can get stale, and as Elisabeth said, mechanical.

VINCENTELLI I enjoyed Weber's contribution to "KPOP" because it was like visual geometry being done in real time. K-pop bands are always in motion when they perform a song, so you need to move the individual members constantly to bring the next soloist to the front. She also had to integrate "point dance," the part of the choreography that fans can do at home. I was fascinated to hear that Weber used an app called ChoreoRoom to help her devise those formations.

SEIBERT New tools, same old challenges. Weber also told me that she was influenced by Hoggett and his emphasis on storytelling.

VINCENTELLI A downside is that we might be missing out on a new generation of triple threats, especially among men. Quite a few leading women can move well, or at least interestingly, but I struggle to come up with a male one. I always enjoy Norbert Leo Butz, who's not a trained dancer but is fully engaged in his character's physicality. Otherwise it's really slim pickings. Ensemble dancing is not going to deliver the next Sutton Foster, let alone the next Fred Astaire.

GREEN Does all this suggest a new direction for dance as storytelling in shows? Fewer stars, more exalted ensembles, greater abstraction, wider points of reference? Among the first shows of the new season will be the Imelda Marcos disco-bio-musical "Here Lies Love," choreographed by Annie-B Parson, whose work we recently saw in David Byrne's "American Utopia." I loved that show's combination of dance "purity" and storytelling, neither condescending to the other.

VINCENTELLI When I saw "Here Lies Love" at the Public, I felt that the movement was very effective, and brilliantly integrated into the immersive concept. I love that the bridges between the pop and Broadway worlds, often via "downtown" artists, are getting stronger.

SEIBERT That back and forth is for the good. It makes dance on Broadway more flexible, as creators grapple with that perennial question of what a Broadway musical is — what it should sound like, how it should move.

GREEN Also as their stories change. That's why I loved Moultrie's dance staging for "Fat Ham," in which characters discovered their truth through what you might call diegetic movement. They were actually dancing in the story, while lip-syncing to karaoke at a party, but they were also tapping down into something much bigger about themselves and the world around them.

SEIBERT Well, that's one gold standard: dance that brings you deeper into the characters and emotions than the words or music might do on their own. But there's still a place for truly showstopping excitement, too. Dance on Broadway can be many things.

GREEN Even a kickline with corn.







SCOTT ROSSI FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Victoria Clark Rediscovered The Beauty Her Voice Owned

The star of 'Kimberly Akimbo' learned that imperfection has its own surprising allure.

By LAURA COLLINS-HUGHES

Victoria Clark's first response was "Absolutely not." Her voice was no longer the instrument she'd always known, so she was done with singing, done with acting, determined to funnel her energy into directing. That was the shape of her career now, and she was fine with it. There was no point in even discussing starring in a new musical.

But the composer Jeanine Tesori has a gently persistent way about her. When she phoned Clark about a project she was working on with the playwright David Lindsay-Abaire, she declined to take no for an answer unless Clark — a lyric soprano who won a best actress Tony Award in 2005 for "The Light in the Piazza" — at least gave the music a shot.

"People sometimes see things in us that we can't see," Clark told me one April afternoon in her narrow dressing room upstairs at the Booth Theater on West 45th Street in Manhattan. We were talking over cups of green tea and slices of chocolate chip banana walnut bread that she had baked herself.

The Booth is where Clark began her Broadway career in the mid-1980s as a replacement understudy on the original production of "Sunday in the Park With George," and where she now does eight shows a week in the title role of the musical comedy "Kimberly Akimbo," because she was unable to prove Tesori's casting hunch wrong.

Of course, Clark was also there because she had decided to face down the fear that made her walk away from singing in the first place. This month she picked up a Tony nomination — her fifth, and one of eight for the show — for her funny, poignant performance as Kimberly Levaco, a high schooler in suburban New Jersey whose fictional, rapid-aging illness has given her the body of a septuagenarian.

At 63, Clark is a little young for the part, and nimbler than Kimberly — whose jeans, by the way, she had thrown on for this interview, along with a cheerful pair of "Kimberly Akimbo" socks and a T-shirt from Six Flags Great Adventure, the theme park that Kimberly longs to visit.

But Clark is old enough to know how it feels when a previously dependable body part suddenly doesn't behave the way it always had.

"When I hit menopause," she said, "my voice went through a lot of changes because that is what happens with most women. And women actors, performers, don't talk about it very much because I think it's something that fills them, fills a lot of us, with incredible terror. Like, something that we've depended on our whole lives, right?"

Since Clark's early childhood in Dallas, singing has been her love. Her B.A. from Yale is in music. But around the time she was starring on Broadway in "Sister Act" (2011) as Mother Superior, she experienced what she called "a big vocal shift." She could no longer simply open her mouth and know that whatever sound she commanded would come out.

She followed up that show with two more Broadway musicals, "Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella" (2013) and "Gigi" (2015). She was Tony-nominated for all three. Yet she felt shadowed by uncertainty about endurance. Around 2018, she set aside a solo show she'd been making about the impact of music on her life, worried that she might run out of voice onstage.

"I had to fall in love again with myself and figure out how to love myself as I was changing," she said. "What does it feel like to own an instrument that is also a muscle, but also your livelihood, but is also somewhat of your identity? Having to work through all of that was, is, its own very personal and emotional journey."

By her own account, Clark has always been a perfectionist, habitually hard on herself. But it's not that she can't hit the high notes anymore, even if only one song in the pop-style "Kimberly Akimbo" asks her to. Talking about the requirements of Tesori's music, Clark fired up a piano app on her phone and demonstrated, by singing, how her voice "starts to bloom at a D."

"That's as high as the whole score goes," she said. "That one little note."

Kimberly is, after all, a teenager. Lyric soprano would not be her usual sound.

TESORI, A TONY WINNER for "Fun Home" and a nominee for "Kimberly Akimbo," has known Clark for decades. But it wasn't until a prepandemic board meeting of the Kurt Weill Foundation for Music, where they are both trustees, that Tesori looked across the table at Clark and realized she had found her Kimberly. She texted Lindsay-Abaire to tell him: "It's Vicki."

"She has the twinkle in her eye of a fourth grader who is about to play kickball," Tesori said by phone the other day. "There's of course an innate elegance about Vicki, but there is also something that reminds me of Joan Cusack in that way that she is goofy and funny and witty and she can throw her body around. She has an incredible comic side."

That facet of Clark was on display in her dressing room when I asked her about an early credit, in the first national tour of "Cats." She leaped up to do a brief soft-shoe, re-enacting her audition. Then she dropped to the floor in an uncanny "Cats" crouch, her right leg fully extended, her gaze tilted upward through a curtain of blond hair. Aptly, she'd played Griddlebone, the opera cat.

Kimberly is the kind of oddball role that is Lindsay-Abaire's métier. The musical is adapted from his play of the same name, which starred Marylouise Burke in its 2001 premiere. Both iterations require the character to seem simultaneously adolescent and elderly, in a performance sprightly enough that winsomeness prevails over melancholy, yet allows those darker tones to seep through. If a singing, dancing Kimberly opens up whole new dimensions of effervescence and intimacy, it also makes the part more complicated to cast.

'People sometimes see things in us that we can't see.'

Like Adam Guettel, who wrote the score of "The Light in the Piazza," Tesori is a rare living composer who Clark believes understands the voice. So despite her trepidation, she was tempted when, in early 2020, Tesori initially sent her some music from "Kimberly Akimbo." Its score, in Clark's estimation, includes "several perfect songs."

"Everything in my blood, in my guts, I would have thrown myself down in traffic to do it," she recalled. "But I said, 'It's not going to be right for me vocally.' And she's like, 'Come to my office.' She said, 'Let's just sing through it. It's not an audition. I just want to hear you sing it, because I want to make sure you're right.' She didn't say, 'You're wrong.'"

So Clark went, and Tesori put the Act I song "Anagram" in front of her. Tesori played the music, and Clark started singing. "It turns out, you know what?" Clark said. "My voice sounded OK, and I was kind of shocked about that." An ambush of tears accompanied the memory. "When you've sung since you were 6, like I have, your voice is like your best friend, and I had kind of put her away for a little while. So, like, taking her out again? It was very emotional. And I had made such peace with it."

Or maybe, she conceded, it was self-protection all along. "I think a lot of it was just saying, I don't want to disappoint myself," she said. "Because stamina is the big thing. You can make a pretty sound, you can do a great show — once, two, three, four, even five times a week. We have to do it eight times a week."

IN THE AUTUMN OF 2021, when New York stages at last had opened up again after the long pandemic shutdown, "Kimberly Akimbo" made its premiere in an Atlantic Theater Company production. Tesori remembers it as a scary time because of the pervasive fear of the coronavirus; Clark remembers it as scary because she still wasn't sure she was up to the job.

In her playbill bio, Clark made a joke about being an actual kid, and even close up in that Off Broadway house — where Kimberly's adorable friend Seth was played by the now 19-year-old Tony nominee Justin Cooley — some audience members believed it.

Such is the teenageness of her Kimberly, whose physicality Jessica Stone, the musical's Tony-nominated director, attributes somewhat to Clark's "natural colt-like vibe." "That is not something that is studied," Stone said. "It's just, you know, she's like a baby horse."

During that run, Clark came down with assorted illnesses, including repeated sinus infections, but she found she could make those minor maladies part of her character. "Pretty much anything works with Kim as long as you can get the words out," Clark said.

Here is the other thing, though: "Part of what I was proving to myself was that, OK, you do have the stamina, actually."

On a mirror in Clark's dressing room hangs a small sign that she takes with her to every show: "Don't postpone joy." That is, coincidentally, a major theme of "Kimberly Akimbo."

But another of the show's motifs is finding beauty in the unimpeccable. Which, for Clark, has been life-changing. "We're all flawed," she said. "That is the human experience. Kim is teaching me how to embrace time, and imperfection, with grace."

Above, Victoria Clark in Central Park. "When you've sung since you were 6, like I have, your voice is like your best friend," she says, "and I had kind of put her away for a little while." Below, in "Kimberly Akimbo," Clark, left, stars as a high schooler whose rapid-aging illness has given her the body of a septuagenarian. Justin Cooley, right, plays her best friend.



SARA KRULWICH/THE NEW YORK TIMES

J. Harrison Ghee Won't Be Boxed In

The actor has received a nomination for a role in which all sides come together.

By ROBIN POGREBIN



ELLIOTT JEROME BROWN JR. FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

No, J. Harrison Ghee did not grow up to be a Missionary Baptist pastor like their father, though they sang in church as a child in North Carolina and earned the nickname "Little Reverend Ghee."

Nevertheless, eight shows a week, onstage at the Shubert Theater in the Broadway musical "Some Like It Hot," Ghee — who uses they/them pronouns — is giving their own form of testimony.

Adapted from the classic 1959 Billy Wilder film, "Some Like It Hot" follows two musicians who, while fleeing the mob, disguise themselves as women. In a twist on the original, Ghee's character, Jerry, not only becomes increasingly comfortable living as "Daphne," but starts to feel more like his true self.

Having struggled to acknowledge a nonbinary identity, Ghee now regularly has queer people gathered at the stage door to thank the actor for making them feel "seen" and "represented," Ghee said. Others just thank the actor for being authentic.

"This is my ministry," Ghee said in a recent interview. "This is how I affect people."

Slim and graceful at 6-foot-4, Ghee, 33, has earned critical praise as Jerry/Daphne and a Tony Award nomination for best leading actor in a musical. The actor's personal lived experience has brought a poignancy to their performance.

"Ghee soars and soars," said Helen Shaw in The New Yorker. Jesse Green, The New York Times's chief theater critic, said Ghee "carefully traces Jerry's transformation into Daphne, and then the merging of the two identities into a third that takes us into territory that's far more complex than jokey drag."

Ghee mines this complexity with both deep pathos and a light touch, appearing as at ease in a dashing three-piece suit as in an elegant beaded red gown.

"There is a personal ease, there is a professional ease," said Christian Borle, who also earned a Tony nod for his performance as Joe, Jerry's partner on the run. "I'm like the yapping dog and he is the calm center of the whole show. I'm throwing all this energy out and he can just be still."

Ghee described the Tony nomination as "such a ride of emotions."

"I'm just starting to come down from it," they said.

As for having been nominated in a gendered category, Ghee said: "Wherever I am, I will show up as who I am. Someone's compartmentalization of me doesn't limit me in any way.

"I hope for the industry we can remove the gender of it," they added, "because we are creators and we should free ourselves beyond so many labels and let the work speak for itself."

Ghee likes to resist categorization even in their dress, wearing clothes that are as bold as their personality. In an interview over a cup of peppermint tea in Chelsea, they were stylish as usual in black leather pants, a yellow felt brim hat and Converse high-tops they'd designed. "People never know what to do with me, and I enjoy that," they said. "I'm like: 'This 6-4 Black queer human exists. And it made you think a little differently than when you left your house today. You're welcome.'"

Growing up in Fayetteville, N.C., Ghee was always drawn to the girls' section of department stores and remembers pining for a lime green suit.

"Why do girls get all the fun options?" Ghee recalled asking their mother. "There's all the sparkle and the ruffle," while the boys' section has "khaki and navy and you get a vest if you want to be festive."

Eager to leave North Carolina, Ghee came to New York at 18 to attend the American Musical and Dramatic Academy and began performing in drag clubs as Crystal Demure.

Working in drag helped Ghee develop as a theatrical performer in their subsequent gigs at Tokyo Disneyland and on cruise ships, they said, losing inhibitions and gaining agency onstage.

"That is the place that freed me," Ghee said, "helped me crack open in a way that I don't know that I would have done."

"It helped me tap into my superpower," they added. "That was my playground of creativity. I was in creative control as a drag queen. I got to make the mixes and design the looks."

It is a freedom Ghee brought to the role of Lola in the national tour of "Kinky Boots," a part they took over on Broadway in 2017. In 2021, they originated the role of Andre in "Mrs. Doubtfire."

The actor Billy Porter, who originally played Lola in "Kinky Boots" and who directed Ghee in a recent episode of the Fox TV series "Accused," said that when watching Ghee in "Some Like It Hot," his "breath was taken away to see the intersection of all of these things" — race, gender and old-fashioned musical theater.

"I think about the generations to come, about the little Black gay boys in the world trying to make it," Porter said.

Ghee came out as gay to their parents at 21. According to Ghee, their father said: "'I don't know where this came from and where I went wrong, but you're still my son. You're a part of me. You represent me. I love you.'"

"That's all I needed to hear," Ghee said. "I was so prepared to be disowned. I mean, Missionary Baptist pastor in North Carolina? It was preached that it was wrong and that it was a sin. So, of course, I had all this internal warring within myself for so long."

Their mother also initially resisted. "She was like: 'This is not God's plan for your life. This is not how we raised you. What are you doing for this money you're getting? You're out here prostituting,'" Ghee recalled. "She didn't want me to get 'Kinky Boots.' She said: 'What is it with you and this drag? If you get it, I don't want to see it.'"

But by opening night, she had come around, Ghee said, telling friends, "'I couldn't imagine him doing anything else.'"

And his father recently called to say: "Your life has a purpose. Keep doing what you're doing."

When casting "Some Like It Hot," the show's director, Casey Nicholaw, said that Ghee was his clear choice and that the actor became instrumental in bringing the character to life. "We kind of built it around" Ghee, Nicholaw said. "Sometimes there is a perfect fit for an actor in a role, and this is definitely one of those times."

The moment in the show that perhaps resonates the most with the actor's personal journey is Daphne's number "You Coulda Knocked Me Over With a Feather." Ghee sings: "Yes, I have tried to love many ladies/Back when I sang in a much lower key/Now you could knock me over with a feather, 'cause Joe,/The lady that I'm loving is me."

"There is a little Daphne in everybody," Ghee said. "And that doesn't mean everyone has to run out and put a dress on. But let life free you to be more than you imagine for yourself."



SARA KRULWICH/THE NEW YORK TIMES

J. Harrison Ghee, above and at left, center, in the musical "Some Like It Hot" at the Shubert Theater.

'This is my ministry. This is how I affect people.'

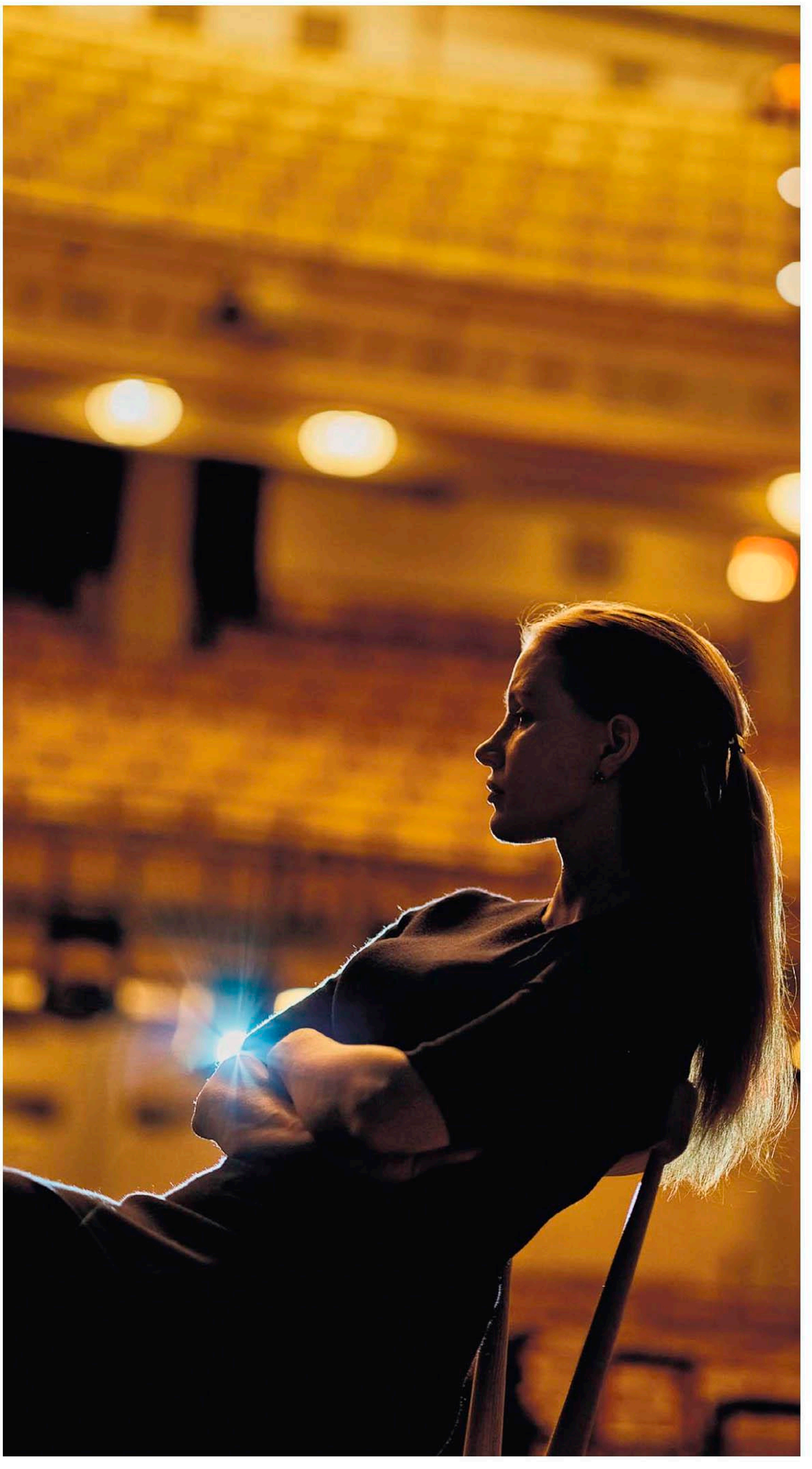
How Broadway Transforms Ideas Into Spectacles

By MICHAEL PAULSON

Theater, at its best, is a form of magic — it enchants us, transforms us and often makes us wonder, "How do they do that?"

On Broadway, where craft is polished and spectacle is heightened, there is much at which to marvel. So this spring, now that all the 2022-23 plays and musicals have opened, we have once again asked a few of the Tony-nominated shows to let us peek behind the metaphorical curtain, exploring how they came up with, and pulled off, some of the sensational stagecraft that caught our attention this season.

Warning: Spoilers ahead.



A DOLL'S HOUSE

Before Showtime, a Spin Around the Stage

The show begins before it begins. Twenty minutes ahead of each performance of "A Doll's House," as ticket holders are taking their seats at the Hudson Theater, a curtain rises to reveal the play's star, Jessica Chastain, slumped in an ash Ercol stacking chair, slowly revolving around the bare stage.

The wordless preshow — a big Hollywood star silently spinning — was born of an impulse. The revival's director, Jamie Lloyd, had long thought he wanted to restrict Chastain's movement in some way, as a visual metaphor for the way her character, Nora Helmer, feels stuck as a woman and a wife.

An early readthrough in Chastain's apartment planted the seed of the idea: She did the reading from her armchair, prompting a transfixed Lloyd to suggest she consider performing the play that way. To his surprise, she agreed, and then one-upped him with a joke that turned serious: Perhaps she could already be in the chair, as if Nora had long been there, when the audience arrived.

"I wanted it to feel like I've been sitting there for years," she said, "and haven't fully woken up to the possibilities."

And why does she rotate? Lloyd said that concept was central to the show's design. "It's a very political play — that's why it's endured — but it's also very psychological, about someone spiraling out of control," he said. "There is something disorienting about the experience she goes on."

The preshow sit-and-spin, conceived as a metaphor, has also paid tangible dividends: It has forestalled entrance applause, and it has allowed fans to get their Instagramming out of the way (photography is permitted until the show begins).

"Everyone has their moment of looking at Jessica Chastain and taking pictures, and then that dissipates, so by the end of the preshow they see Nora," Chastain said. "I want them to let go of the celebrity baggage they are carrying."

There is, admittedly, some discomfort, and not just because Chastain finds the chair uncomfortable.

"I feel like I can't hide — people can film and take pictures and see every part of me," she said, "and it makes me feel like an object they are studying."

Meanwhile, she is studying them back.

"The second it starts, I start making eye contact with people, and I really connect to them, and I actually send them messages," she said.

On occasion, she'll see someone she recognizes, or someone who tries to get her attention. She tries hard not to react, at least not visibly. "I don't wave, I don't change my body position, and I don't smile," she said. "I don't do things separate from Nora, but I connect to them."

"I fill myself up with the energy that I'm receiving, and by the end of the preshow, I am completely open," she added. "I feel so open to the room. I feel so open to the emotions that show up. And I feel that's because we are all on this psychological journey together."



ALI CHERKIS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

SWEENEY TODD

The Barber and the Bloodshed

"I've murdered many, many people on Broadway," Jeremy Chernick said, before clarifying: "Fake-murdered."

Chernick is the special-effects designer for "Sweeney Todd," in which the vengeful barber played by Josh Groban kills a bunch of people whose bodies are then baked into pies by his loving landlady (Annaleigh Ashford). The gruesome homicides (most of the show's nine deaths are by throat-slitting) provide logistical challenges for any team that stages this classic show, which features songs by Stephen Sondheim. Here's how this production's creative team addressed them.

THE CHAIR Sweeney kills his customers in a barber chair, then dumps their bodies into a chute that leads to the pie shop oven. The revival's set designer, Mimi Lien, said her top priority was safety, because in some earlier productions of the classic musical, actors had been injured while being ejected from the chair.

Lien designed a Victorian cast-iron chair, upholstered in oxblood-red synthetic leather. Many of her aesthetic choices were driven by functional concerns: the fabric needed to be smooth and slippery, so the bodies would slide easily, and both the fabric and arms of the chair needed to be simple to avoid creating opportunities for costumes to snag or blood to pool.

The chair has hinges and levers that allow it to flatten, like a gurney. Each time a customer is killed, Groban flattens the chair, swivels it into place (the creative team thought body-dumping would look best in profile) and raises it to a 45-degree angle, releasing the actor through an open trap door. (They go feetfirst; Lien thought a headfirst maneuver would look more dramatic but abandoned the idea over safety concerns.)

The actors fall about four or five feet into a padded area, not visible to the audience, where there are crew members waiting to help them offstage and, if necessary, out of their costumes.

THE BLOOD Chernick chose Nick Dudman's



SASHA ARUTYUNOVA FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

"Pigs Might Fly," a sugar-based, washable stage blood. Chernick said he liked that the blood was sticky, rather than slippery, to reduce stage hazards. "A huge part of my job is figuring out how the show goes on after blood is everywhere," he said.

Many productions of "Sweeney Todd" have furnished the title character with a razor blade that squirts blood, but, Chernick said, "the modern audience wants more blood than can fit in a razor blade," so he chose to build a blood vessel into the barber capes worn by customers, and the actors trigger the spurt of blood as their characters are killed. Each death requires about a tennis ball's volume of blood, Chernick said; the customer capes are sprayed with water to make the blood soak in more effectively. "We worked on quantity through previews," Chernick said, "to thread the needle between what gets a reaction from the audience and what is distracting and gross."

THE CLEANUP Once the actors are offstage, their bloody clothing is removed and brought to a laundry room in the theater basement. There are three washing machines, three dryers, a slop sink and tubs where cotton garments are soaked (the blood comes out of polyester items more easily). Some of the clothing is hosed down as soon as it comes off a performer's body. There are spares for two-show days.

"I've done many, many Broadway shows, but this is my first show dealing with blood on this scale," said Jesse Galvan, the wardrobe supervisor. "It does create some challenges — blood splatters, so we're always on the lookout for blood on costumes in random places."

Groban said the effects were the key to making the show work. "It's such an amazing reaction when people see the chair happening for the first time, or the blood coming out," he said. "And it's a lot of fun for me. My hands are doing these dark, twisted things while the singing is pretty romantic, and I think that's the rub that Sondheim had in mind."



JUSTIN J WEE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

SHUCKED

Corncob Choreography

Sarah O'Gleby, sleep-addled because she's raising a toddler, awoke with one of those sparks that might be insane or might be inspired: She remembered that scene from Charlie Chaplin's 1925 movie, "The Gold Rush," in which the comedian stabs two bread rolls with forks and uses them to perform a tabletop routine.

O'Gleby, the choreographer for "Shucked," had been feeling dissatisfied with her musical's opening number, which didn't quite have the go-for-broke vibe of the zany country-music-plus-corn-jokes production to follow. Chaplin's antics got her thinking.

"It just popped into my head: I wonder if there's anything we could do with corncobs," she said. "So I brought a bunch of dancers into a room to play, and when I saw a wall of actors doing a Rockette kickline with corncobs, it made me giggle — it just seemed silly and ludicrous and it made me smile."

That's how the show's corn kickline was born. And yes, it's a corn kickline — 14 actors, holding 28 corncobs, lined up at the lip of the stage, making those cobs dance atop planks of kiln-dried ash.

Training the performers, most of whom are not dancers, took time — the routine combines elements of vaudeville, tap and percussion. "It was the first thing we taught the cast when we started rehearsing for Broadway, and many of them were like, 'What is this?' " she said. "I said, 'Come on: Open hearts and open minds!' We had to build up very slowly for them to be at the speed they're at now."

Designing the cobs — sorry, they're synthetic — also proved challenging. The plastic ones the show first tried smashed after a few uses, so the prop team fabricated 9-inch, yellow, huskless cobs from an impact-resistant resin that could survive eight shows a week. The cobs are heavy, to ensure a percussive sound, and the show's designers incorporated large pockets into the costumes to hold them.

The 20-second kickline has become a signature of the show, helping to establish its playful, pun-drenched and corn-themed tone.

"We're trying to say to the audience: 'This is the type of night you're in for,' " O'Gleby said. " 'It's going to be light and buoyant, and we're going to have a lovely time with each other, and we hope you have a lovely time with us.' "

FAT HAM

Is a Ghost Invited to the Barbecue?

"Hamlet" is filled with famous characters. One of them is dead.

The ghost of the title character's father plays a key role in spurring the action of the Shakespeare play, and the same is true in "Fat Ham," James Ijames's Pulitzer-winning riff on the classic, now relocated to the North Carolina backyard of a family that runs a barbecue joint.

The new play's director, Saheem Ali, said he knew when he read the script that he wanted to find a way to nod to Shakespeare but acknowledge the irreverent tone of "Fat Ham." "In 'Hamlet,' the ghost is usually really scary — you have to feel the impact of the supernatural — but we're in a comedy, so it also needs a lightness," he said. "It's a ghost with a wink."

And how to find someone who could help with conjuring the supernatural? Ali turned, not surprisingly, to the team behind "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" — a play packed with stage magic — and found Skylar Fox, who oversees magic for the American productions of "Cursed Child," and who now also handles illusions design for "Fat Ham."

"Ghosts come up a lot in making magic for theater, and I've done it a few times," Fox said. "As audiences get smarter and smarter about how the world works, it's harder and harder to surprise them, but that's what makes trying to do it exciting."

The "Fat Ham" ghost — he's called Pap — appears three times, emitting a vapor that gives him a kind of spectral otherworldliness, but also connects him to the smoking of meat that was his livelihood.

Ijames's script says that the first time the ghost appears, he has a classic ghost costume: "a bed sheet with eye holes cut out." But Ali and Fox made a slight adjustment: For that first appearance, the ghost is covered not with a bed sheet, but with a red gingham tablecloth, of the sort that might be found at a barbecue.

The second time the ghost appears, he emerges from a box of party supplies, and the third time, he pops out of the grill itself.

"For such silly moments, there was a lot of thought put into the why," Fox said. "This is a house that is both familiar and alienating, and there is this residual trauma sitting in everything, but we approached that with a bit of a cocked head and a light touch."



SARA KRULWICH/THE NEW YORK TIMES



CHRISTOPHER LEE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

PARADE

Imprisoned at Intermission

"Guilty. Guilty. Guilty."

As Act 1 of "Parade" ends, the main character, a Jewish businessman named Leo Frank, is convicted of killing a young girl. It is 1913 in Georgia; the case has been skewed by antisemitism, and Frank is sentenced to death by hanging.

Then it's intermission.

Ben Platt, who plays Frank, remains onstage. He removes his clothes and dons a prison uniform. And for about 15 minutes, he sits as if in a cell, atop a 13-by-13-foot platform at center stage, silent.

"There's so much ground to cover in the show, there's no time to dwell on the literal truth that this man had to spend the end of his life in isolation," Platt said. "And for me, no matter what is happening emotionally, this is always a time within the show that's only devoted to thinking about that."

Platt's wordless presence throughout the intermission — a period of time when two years elapse — has become one of the most talked-about elements of the show, in part because it feels like a feat of concentration, and in part because it can be photographed, so it winds up on TikTok and other social media.

"Parade" is based on history, and this staging was the idea of the revival's director, Michael Arden.

"It was just this strange fever-dream hunch that I had: this image of Ben sitting onstage, being trapped on what would be his gallows," Arden said. "I wanted to challenge the audience, when they're getting their cocktail or texting their friends or talking about what they're having for dinner, to look back and see Ben onstage, and to get a sense that while the world was turning, this man was sitting in a prison cell."

Some patrons sit quietly in their seats, as if keeping vigil with the character; many get up to take pictures, and some have tried to get Platt's attention.

"There are times when someone says, 'Ben, I'll give you $100 if you turn around,' or 'Ben, I love you,' but it's a rare occurrence, and people generally get the hint," Platt said. "I try to dissociate, so that I'm not sure what they're doing."

Platt said that, when the idea was first floated to him, he had lots of questions. Would someone bring him water? (Yes.) Would he have to remain still? (No — sometimes he lies on a bench.) The rest was up to him.

"There are days when I can stay entirely immersed in the story, and am very much being Leo, and feeling stuck, and there are days when I'm fatigued, and I have to concentrate on making it through the period," he said. "But the physical manifestation is always the same time: I sit there with myself."

THE TONY AWARDS

Who Will (and Should) Win

Our critics offer their own list of Tony-worthy theater performances from 2022-23.

JESSE GREEN

BEST PLAY

WILL WIN: "Leopoldstadt"

SHOULD WIN: "Between Riverside and Crazy"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: "A Case for the Existence of God"*

BEST MUSICAL

WILL WIN: "Kimberly Akimbo"

SHOULD WIN: "Kimberly Akimbo"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: "White Girl in Danger"*

BEST PLAY REVIVAL

WILL WIN: "A Doll's House"

SHOULD WIN: "Topdog/Underdog"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: "Ohio State Murders"; "Cyrano de Bergerac"*; "Wedding Band"*

BEST MUSICAL REVIVAL

WILL WIN: "Sweeney Todd"

SHOULD WIN: "Into the Woods"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: "Dancin'"

BEST ACTOR IN A PLAY

WILL WIN: Wendell Pierce, "Death of a Salesman"

SHOULD WIN: Stephen McKinley Henderson, "Between Riverside and Crazy"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Marcel Spears, "Fat Ham"; John David Washington, "The Piano Lesson"; James McAvoy, "Cyrano de Bergerac"*

BEST ACTRESS IN A PLAY

WILL WIN: Jodie Comer, "Prima Facie"

SHOULD WIN: Jessica Chastain, "A Doll's House"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Laura Linney, "Summer, 1976"; Linda Lavin, "You Will Get Sick"*; Brittany Bradford, "Wedding Band"*

BEST ACTOR IN A MUSICAL

WILL WIN: Josh Groban, "Sweeney Todd"

SHOULD WIN: J. Harrison Ghee, "Some Like It Hot"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Jordan Donica, "Camelot"*

BEST ACTRESS IN A MUSICAL

WILL WIN: Victoria Clark, "Kimberly Akimbo"

SHOULD WIN: Victoria Clark

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Anna Uzele, "New York, New York"; Lea Michele, "Funny Girl"*

BEST FEATURED ACTOR IN A PLAY

WILL WIN: Samuel L. Jackson, "The Piano Lesson"

SHOULD WIN: Jordan E. Cooper, "Ain't No Mo'"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: André De Shields, "Death of a Salesman"; Michael Patrick Thornton, "A Doll's House"; Michael Potts, "The Piano Lesson"

BEST FEATURED ACTRESS IN A PLAY

WILL WIN: Miriam Silverman, "The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window"

SHOULD WIN: Katy Sullivan, "Cost of Living"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Liza Colón-Zayas, "Between Riverside and Crazy"; Veanne Cox, "Wedding Band"*

BEST FEATURED ACTOR IN A MUSICAL

WILL WIN: Alex Newell, "Shucked"

SHOULD WIN: Justin Cooley, "Kimberly Akimbo"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Kolton Krouse, "Dancin'"

BEST FEATURED ACTRESS IN A MUSICAL

WILL WIN: Bonnie Milligan, "Kimberly Akimbo"

SHOULD WIN: Bonnie Milligan

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Carolee Carmello, "Bad Cinderella"

BEST DIRECTOR OF A PLAY

WILL WIN: Patrick Marber, "Leopoldstadt"

SHOULD WIN: Jamie Lloyd, "A Doll's House"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Austin Pendleton, "Between Riverside and Crazy"; David Cromer, "A Case for the Existence of God"*; Jamie Lloyd, "Cyrano de Bergerac"*

BEST DIRECTOR OF A MUSICAL

WILL WIN: Casey Nicholaw, "Some Like It Hot"

SHOULD WIN: Lear deBessonet, "Into the Woods"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Susan Stroman, "New York, New York"

BEST BOOK OF A MUSICAL

WILL WIN: Robert Horn, "Shucked"

SHOULD WIN: David Lindsay-Abaire, "Kimberly Akimbo"

BEST SCORE

WILL WIN: Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman, "Some Like It Hot"

SHOULD WIN: Jeanine Tesori and David Lindsay-Abaire, "Kimberly Akimbo"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: John Kander and Fred Ebb with Lin-Manuel Miranda, "New York, New York"

BEST CHOREOGRAPHY

WILL WIN: Casey Nicholaw, "Some Like It Hot"

SHOULD WIN: Susan Stroman, "New York, New York"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Darrell Grand Moultrie, "Fat Ham"; Andy Blankenbuehler, "Only Gold"*

BEST ENSEMBLE**

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: "Dancin'" "Leopoldstadt"

MAYA PHILLIPS

BEST PLAY

WILL WIN: "Leopoldstadt"

SHOULD WIN: "Between Riverside and Crazy"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: "300 el x 50 el x 30 el"*; "A Case for the Existence of God"*; "The Patient Gloria"*

BEST MUSICAL

WILL WIN: "Kimberly Akimbo"

SHOULD WIN: "Some Like It Hot"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: "As You Like It"*; "The Appointment"*

BEST PLAY REVIVAL

WILL WIN: "A Doll's House"

SHOULD WIN: "Topdog/Underdog"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: "Endgame"*; "Wedding Band"*

BEST MUSICAL REVIVAL

WILL WIN: "Sweeney Todd"

SHOULD WIN: "Parade"

BEST ACTOR IN A PLAY

WILL WIN: Stephen McKinley Henderson, "Between Riverside and Crazy"

SHOULD WIN: Stephen McKinley Henderson, or Corey Hawkins, "Topdog/Underdog"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Hiran Abeysekera, "Life of Pi"; Paul Bettany, "The Collaboration"; Jeremy Pope, "The Collaboration"; John David Washington, "The Piano Lesson"

BEST ACTRESS IN A PLAY

WILL WIN: Audra McDonald, "Ohio State Murders"

SHOULD WIN: Jodie Comer, "Prima Facie"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Laura Linney, "Summer, 1976"; Brittany Bradford, "Wedding Band"*; Lia Williams, "Oresteia"*

BEST ACTOR IN A MUSICAL

WILL WIN: Josh Groban, "Sweeney Todd"

SHOULD WIN: Ben Platt, "Parade"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Will Swenson, "A Beautiful Noise"

BEST ACTRESS IN A MUSICAL

WILL WIN: Victoria Clark, "Kimberly Akimbo"

SHOULD WIN: Victoria Clark

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Caroline Innerbichler, "Shucked"; Lea Michele, "Funny Girl"*; Crystal Lucas-Perry, "1776"; Anna Uzele, "New York, New York"

BEST FEATURED ACTOR IN A PLAY

WILL WIN: Brandon Uranowitz, "Leopoldstadt"

SHOULD WIN: Jordan E. Cooper, "Ain't No Mo'"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Victor Almanzar, "Between Riverside and Crazy"; Chris Herbie Holland, "Fat Ham"

BEST FEATURED ACTRESS IN A PLAY

WILL WIN: Miriam Silverman, "The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window"

SHOULD WIN: Kara Young, "Cost of Living"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Jamie Brewer, "Corsicana"*

BEST FEATURED ACTOR IN A MUSICAL

WILL WIN: Justin Cooley, "Kimberly Akimbo"

SHOULD WIN: Alex Newell, "Shucked"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Kolton Krouse, "Dancin'"; Angel Sigala, "New York, New York"

BEST FEATURED ACTRESS IN A MUSICAL

WILL WIN: Betsy Wolfe, "& Juliet"

SHOULD WIN: Julia Lester, "Into the Woods," or Bonnie Milligan, "Kimberly Akimbo"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Robyn Hurder, "A Beautiful Noise"; Sara Porkalob, "1776"

BEST DIRECTOR OF A PLAY

WILL WIN: Patrick Marber, "Leopoldstadt"

SHOULD WIN: Jamie Lloyd, "A Doll's House"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: David Cromer, "A Case for the Existence of God"*; Carl Cofield, "Twelfth Night"*; Robert Icke, "Oresteia"*

BEST DIRECTOR OF A MUSICAL

WILL WIN: Casey Nicholaw, "Some Like It Hot"

SHOULD WIN: Casey Nicholaw, or Jack O'Brien, "Shucked"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Susan Stroman, "New York, New York"; Laurie Woolery, "As You Like It"*

BEST BOOK OF A MUSICAL

WILL WIN: David Lindsay-Abaire, "Kimberly Akimbo"

SHOULD WIN: Robert Horn, "Shucked"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Liza Birkenmeier, "____ 7th Grade"*

BEST SCORE

WILL WIN: Jeanine Tesori and David Lindsay-Abaire, "Kimberly Akimbo"

SHOULD WIN: Jeanine Tesori and David Lindsay-Abaire

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Arinzé Kene, Shiloh Coke and Adrian McLeod, "Misty"*

BEST CHOREOGRAPHY

WILL WIN: Casey Nicholaw, "Some Like It Hot"

SHOULD WIN: Susan Stroman, "New York, New York"

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: Tiffany Rea-Fisher, "Twelfth Night"*

BEST ENSEMBLE**

SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED: "Cost of Living" "Fat Ham"

** The "Should Have Been Nominated" category salutes work that was eligible for nomination as well as work that wasn't. That includes non-Broadway productions that opened after May 1, 2022.*

*** Best Ensemble is not an actual Tonys category — yet.*

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ABOVE AND BELOW, EAMON QUEENEY FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Once artists are gone, families become caretakers of history.

The Pirouettes They Left Behind

Dancers often keep mementos from their careers. A lucky few find an archival home for the treasures.

By MERYL CATES

The same five binders have traveled with Anya Davis for more than 20 years as she moved from Pennsylvania to Virginia to North Carolina. In them are personal records of her mother's celebrated dance career and experiences in the early years of New York City Ballet. Back in 2000, when Davis and her mother, Patricia Wilde, a former City Ballet principal, first began to look through the boxes Wilde had been storing in her home in Pittsburgh, they spent half a year carefully sorting through the photographs and playbills, and enjoying the stories Wilde had packed away along with them.

One of the densely filled boxes had slides of visits to the Connecticut cottage that George Balanchine, the co-founder of City Ballet, shared with the ballerina Tanaquil Le Clercq, who was then his wife — like an image of Wilde and Le Clercq lounging together in comfy slippers, smiling at the camera while flipping through newspapers. In another box were letters from dancers like Edward Villella, and an old tour itinerary: 21 cities in 25 days, by train. All were put into binders, chronologically when possible.

Davis has devotedly taken care of these binders and scrapbooks over the years, she said, as we paged through a few in a quiet booth at a New York diner. Davis had brought a manageable selection of photographs and correspondence for us to view together on a recent visit to the city. It was not quite half the collection, but it still took up much of her car's trunk.

Soon all the items, donated by Davis, will head to the Jerome Robbins Dance Division at the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts. That was what she had discussed with Wilde, who died in 2021 at 93. Davis will keep a few things, including a picture of Wilde in class with Balanchine. "I knew it was her absolute favorite," she said.

Dancers and choreographers often become unintentional collectors, accumulating valuable records of an art form with few tangible traces. And once artists are gone, families are left to be caretakers of dance history. They may be tasked with identifying obscure photographs and deciphering faded handwritten letters while keeping them safe from leaky attics and the ravages of time.

For a lucky few, like Davis, those family treasures will find an enduring home of protection and care — in an archive.

"It's your voice across time," said Linda Murray, the curator for the Jerome Robbins Dance Division, one of the most extensive dance archives. "When you're no longer around to speak for yourself, and when everybody who ever knew you and ever saw you dance is no longer around to talk about your contributions, the objects that you place in your archive are going to be the things that tell that story on your behalf."

Storing these items requires space and resources, so archives must carefully consider what they collect and why. The Dance Division at the New York Public Library receives more inquiries than it can accommodate. Murray said she looks for materials that will add layers of information to the library's holdings, always adapting to the unpredictable nature of when these personal files may become available.

For the library, acquiring Wilde's collection is a way to enhance existing materials about artists who worked directly with Balanchine. He created several roles for her, including in "Square Dance" (1957), a celebration of the exhilarating precision and fireworks that Wilde brought to the company.

"How can you say no to Patricia Wilde?" Murray said. "She's a Balanchine ballerina, she was one of the original interpreters of much of his choreography, and also a beloved teacher to subsequent generations of dancers."

In 2021, Murray acquired the collection of Ruth Ann Koesun, an Asian American ballerina and principal dancer with American Ballet Theater from the late 1940s through the '60s. Koesun's materials contributed an essential perspective to the Dance Division's holdings. "I think we don't have enough representation for Asian American dancers in the field of ballet, and Ruth Ann was an innovator in that area," Murray said. "Even within the dance field, I don't think her name is as well known as it should be."

Koesun was a creative force in a range of roles, including the revival of "Billy the Kid," which she performed in 1962 at the White House for the Kennedys. She kept the costume she wore neatly packed away.

When Koesun died, in 2018, she left her archive to her goddaughter Ellen Coghlan with instructions to donate it, and Koesun's hope was that it would end up at the Dance Division. There was no backup plan. So Coghlan and her husband began the intensive job of cataloging everything Koesun had saved, including her first contract with Ballet Theater, co-signed by her mother because she was only 17.

Boxes took over nearly every room of their home, Coghlan said, as they paged through Koesun's personal letters from tours, photographs, press, and copies of an issue of Life magazine from 1947, which she appeared on the cover with the ballerina Melissa Hayden.

"It was a big responsibility because she was alone," Coghlan said of Koesun. "So when she passed away we were in charge of all her stuff, which is more than any normal person has, but she was family."

Some families search for years, and even decades, to find an ideal home for their loved one's possessions, if they find one at all. And while these collections are crucial sources of discovery for researchers, they can also be eye-opening for the family members.

Primavera Boman inherited the London home of her mother, Hilde Holger, more than 20 years ago, and looking at each item has been revelatory. "I'm learning who my family is," Boman said.

Boman had known that her mother was a prominent expressionist dancer and choreographer in Vienna, Bombay and London. But she didn't know the extent of Holger's influential dance career, first performing with Gertrud Bodenwieser's dance group, and then with her own touring company, Hilde Holger Tanzgruppe, all before World War II.

"I had no idea that my mother was so well known in Vienna before Hitler came," Boman said. "I'm becoming like a historian, a conservationist, an archivist."

Above, objects belonging to Patricia Wilde, a New York City Ballet dancer whose collection will be housed in the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts. Below are film canisters from her collection, and at bottom, a slide from 1954 that shows George Balanchine, center, and others.





PATRICIA WILDE; EAMON QUEENEY FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

After years of trying, though, Boman still hasn't placed the collection. She has done the sorting and the cataloging, and maintains a detailed inventory of every sketch and letter, ready for the opportunity to make her donation. Even in cases when an archive readily expresses interest, that initial work is mainly the family's responsibility, and it requires endurance.

Léo Holder, the son of the artist, dancer and choreographer Geoffrey Holder and the dancer Carmen de Lavallade, 92, said that when Holder died in 2014 some of the stored items hadn't been seen in 30 years. "They lived in a 5,000-square-foot loft," Léo said of his parents. "By the time we moved out of that loft, there was maybe 500 square feet of walking space left."

Until then, he hadn't realized the scope of the materials. "It's movie history, it's Black history, it's Black theater history," he said. "It's more than just one thing."

Geoffrey Holder, who met de Lavallade when they both appeared in the 1954 Broadway production of "House of Flowers," saved everything: not just items related to their significant and extensive careers, but also the stuff of their lives. He filled Ziploc bags and traveling trunks with bills and greeting cards, as well as treasures like footage from "The Wiz" (1975), which won him Tony Awards for direction and costume design; and a frail costume nestled in a suitcase from de Lavallade's 1962 tour of Southeast Asia with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, during which she performed alongside Ailey, even appearing on promotional posters as "The de Lavallade-Ailey American Dance Company."

Léo had offers to place his parents' collection with other institutions, but his decision to work with Emory University came down to the connection he felt with its head curator. Now the collection is kept at Emory, in Atlanta, in the Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library as the Geoffrey Holder and Carmen de Lavallade Papers and numbers some 280 boxes with content spanning the years 1900 to 2018.

"This put me through my paces," Léo said, recalling the sorting, which took him two years. "Sifting through every little thing, and finding gems all the time."

The emotional element connected to these donations is not one that is always considered. Murray noted that when a donation comes from a family rather than a trust or an estate, it can become intertwined with the grieving process — there is a catharsis in letting go when the time is right.

Davis is preparing the Patricia Wilde collection for its send-off, and there is much affection in her familiarity with each photo. At the diner, Davis reached across the table and pointed to an image of her mother in Balanchine's "Pas de Dix." Wilde gazes directly at the camera, hands beneath her chin, her eyes and tiara shimmering in the studio lights. "I love this one of her," Davis said. "She looks like she's blowing us a kiss."

Family members have kept anything meaningful to them, Davis said, because once the collection is signed over to the library there is no special access granted. "Choose, and choose wisely," she told her nephews.

The calm that follows these significant donations is something Léo seems to know all about. "It was on my shoulders, and I'm just one person with all the information," he said. "It was keeping me up at night. The thought of it being someplace where it is safe, I couldn't be happier."



PHILIP CHEUNG FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

A Maestro Divined From the Vinyl

Gustavo Dudamel's recordings reveal an often agreeable conductor with work still to do.

By DAVID ALLEN

Seven years ago, not long after Jaap van Zweden had been proclaimed the music director of the New York Philharmonic, I listened to every commercial recording of his that I could lay my hands on, to get a better sense of his conducting. I do not remember it exactly as a fun experience, when I have to remember it at all, nor one that flattered him that much.

Now that the Philharmonic's next music director has been named, it's Gustavo Dudamel's turn.

This time, the exercise is a different proposition, and thankfully nowhere near as enervating. Van Zweden was hardly a household name when the Philharmonic hired him, and even avid collectors could have been excused for not staying abreast of his latest releases. Dudamel is a Hollywood-starred celebrity who enjoys a longstanding relationship with the Deutsche Grammophon label. On Friday, he will lead Mahler's Ninth Symphony in his first Philharmonic appearance since his appointment, which takes effect in 2026.

The Philharmonic has high hopes for Dudamel, 42, but it probably has not hired him first and foremost to commit agenda-setting Beethoven and Brahms to disc, though he will make records anyway. It expects him to be a grander figure, a talisman who will gladden the jaded and enthuse audiences the orchestra has yet to enthuse.

His conducting has always been somewhat overshadowed by the blinding hype that surrounds his vision of music-making as a transformative social force. Claims that he is the "savior of classical music" are no longer as common as they once were, but other clichés have endured since he shot to stardom in the mid-aughts: that he stands musically for impetuous exuberance, say, or for perpetual youth. He still has to say, as he did to The New York Times in February, that he is "not a young conductor anymore."

Dudamel has often suggested that he never was one. When Dudamel was 26, Bob Simon of "60 Minutes" asked if he was too young to be a conductor; he replied that he had been conducting since he was 12, adding that he still had a lot to learn. "I'm not so old. I'm 30," he told the critic Mark Swed in 2011. "But I feel old." Likewise, plenty of critics have, over the years, described Dudamel's approach as that of a much more senior musician; Alex Ross of The New Yorker has lately suggested that "he was, in a way, too mature from the start."

Perhaps, then, it is best to listen to Dudamel's recordings not only to hear a prodigy on the rise, but also for what he quickly became: a musician of significant experience who has had access to a starry cast of mentors for much of his career and has been working with the finest orchestras in the world for nearly two decades. On that basis, his discography ought to draw a warmer endorsement than it reasonably can.

That's not to say it's bad. Most of Dudamel's recordings are perfectly listenable, and some are impressive, like his set of the Ives symphonies with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, which he has led since 2009. Few of them anger or appall, though they tend not to support the supposed Dudamel of all-star energy; some of his readings are frankly rather staid. On the whole, he comes off as a very capable musician, but one who has not yet acquired the flair for details and the brilliance of imagination that marks a conductor as extraordinary.

IT'S HARD NOW TO RECALL fully the superheated hysteria that Dudamel and the Simón Bolívar Youth Orchestra of Venezuela generated when they started mamboing through the concert halls of Europe and North America in their yellow, red and blue jackets. I was still a teenager when I unsuspectingly attended their near-mythical concert at the London Proms in 2007; a grown adult snatched one of those jackets out of my hands as the players hurled them into the euphoric crowd. That same year, one critic called Dudamel and the Bolívars "the greatest show on Earth."

El Sistema, the education program from which the Bolívars emerged, later found itself caught in the darkening of Venezuelan politics; it took the fatal shooting of a young violist from the program, Armando Cañizales, during protests, for Dudamel to publicly oppose the regime of President Nicolás Maduro in 2017. He remains the music director of the Bolívars, who aged out of their youth orchestra billing long ago, and last November he finally felt able to visit his homeland again after a long absence. In August, he will conduct the Bolívars for the first time in six years at the Edinburgh Festival. He sounds at his freest with this ensemble, which he calls "my family," and their records together give a good, basic sense of his musical personality.



ABOVE AND BELOW, MERIDITH KOHUT FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

At the heart of Dudamel's ethos is joy in musicianship, and nowhere is that more apparent than in "Fiesta," his infectious recording of Latin American music. Early on, he thrived on heightening the emotional content of a score, which explains the tempo extremes that make his Tchaikovsky — one release of "Francesca da Rimini" and the Fifth Symphony, the other of Shakespearean fantasies — so thrillingly explosive when he finally gets to the quick stuff. That trait he has since moderated, although a recent Los Angeles Philharmonic account of Dvorak's "New World" Symphony suggests that he has not wholly abandoned it.

Other elements of Dudamel's style are present and correct. He likes to emphasize the melodic shape of a work more than its harmonic grounding; a "Tristan" Prelude and Liebestod on an iffy Wagner collection is therefore pretty, but slack. There's a certain rhythmic fluffiness, too, a reluctance to grant rhythms a precise character. That means a fervent "Rite of Spring" falls short of being properly barbaric, and the same issue weighs down the entirely different repertoire of his 2017 New Year's Concert with the Vienna Philharmonic, whose waltzes and polkas are often charming, but equally often lead-footed.

A lot of this has to do with the sound that Dudamel prefers, or at least grew up with. The Bolívars were a colossal orchestra, a visual as well as a musical spectacle, and their tonal mass was blunt, overpowering. It's no surprise that their conductor favors a full sound. That's not necessarily a problem; what is, though, is that his sound, as microphones catch it, can seem flat.

Sometimes that doesn't matter so much: There is a patient Bruckner Ninth with the Gothenburg Symphony, which hosted Dudamel for an apprenticeship as its principal conductor from 2007 to 2012, that satisfies despite its longueurs. But there isn't enough tonal differentiation to enliven his Mussorgsky from Vienna or his Strauss with the Berlin Philharmonic, and the same issue creeps into some of his Mahler, including a Fifth Symphony with the Berliners that is more cautious and altogether less entertaining than the sweeping Fifth, with an endearingly drawn-out Adagietto, that he and the Bolívars set down in 2006. A Third from Berlin is similar: lucid, but not much more.

Then there is Dudamel's Beethoven. His first recording with the Bolívars paired an unstable Fifth with a driving, bracing Seventh that is still astonishing to hear; alas, a subsequent "Eroica" is not; nor is a self-published cycle of the symphonies that dates to concerts in Venezuela in 2015. Slow and not entirely steady, this is such back-to-the-future Beethoven that it might have felt conservative two or three generations ago. I wouldn't mind that if more of those readings were like his gratifying Fourth and had the formal security and dramatic tension that this aesthetic demands.

They tend not to support the supposed Dudamel of all-star energy.

IF THE LOS ANGELES PHILHARMONIC indeed became "the most important orchestra in America" during Dudamel's tenure there, as the Times critic Zachary Woolfe wrote in 2017, that success has been only partially audible on record. The dismal economic realities of the streaming age are such that not even Dudamel, for all his fame, gets the chance to tinker with his interpretations in a studio as earlier generations of conductors could.

Nor has Dudamel been able to preserve completely the loyalty to new music that he and his players have shown in performance. His recordings of Andrew Norman's "Sustain" and Thomas Adès's "Dante" ballet are hugely valuable, though I have heard Adès conduct parts of his score more audaciously. If nothing else, Dudamel's Los Angeles discography matters as testimony to his support for John Adams: As well as pioneering accounts of "The Gospel According to the Other Mary" and "Must the Devil Have All the Good Tunes?," there is a wonderfully spirited "Slonimsky's Earbox."

Caveats duly lamented, there is still enough to go on here. Dudamel's early years at Walt Disney Concert Hall are well documented. Highlights include the exhilarating but soft-focused Bartok "Concerto for Orchestra" of his debut in January 2007, and an ambitiously mighty Brahms Fourth that won a Grammy. Most of the concert relays from that time are routine, though, and the uneven Mahler First from his inaugural gala in 2009 is worth hearing mostly as a baseline for the improvement in his later Los Angeles Mahler recordings. The warm, compassionate Ninth from 2012 could do with more snap and bite, but a tightly controlled Eighth from 2019 is effective.

What remains odd, however, is that records that should have been easy home runs are not. It took five years for Deutsche Grammophon to release Dudamel's "Nutcracker" after concerts in 2013, and although it is agreeable enough on a first listen, on a second it becomes clear why: rhythmic timidity, along with colors that are a few shades duller than fairy-light bright. For every touching moment in Dudamel's 2019 homage to his friend John Williams, similar reservations lurk. When Williams conducts the "Imperial March," he can both scare you with the Empire's fully operational battle power, as with the Berlin Philharmonic, and mock its vainglory, as with the Vienna Philharmonic. Dudamel makes no comment on it at all.

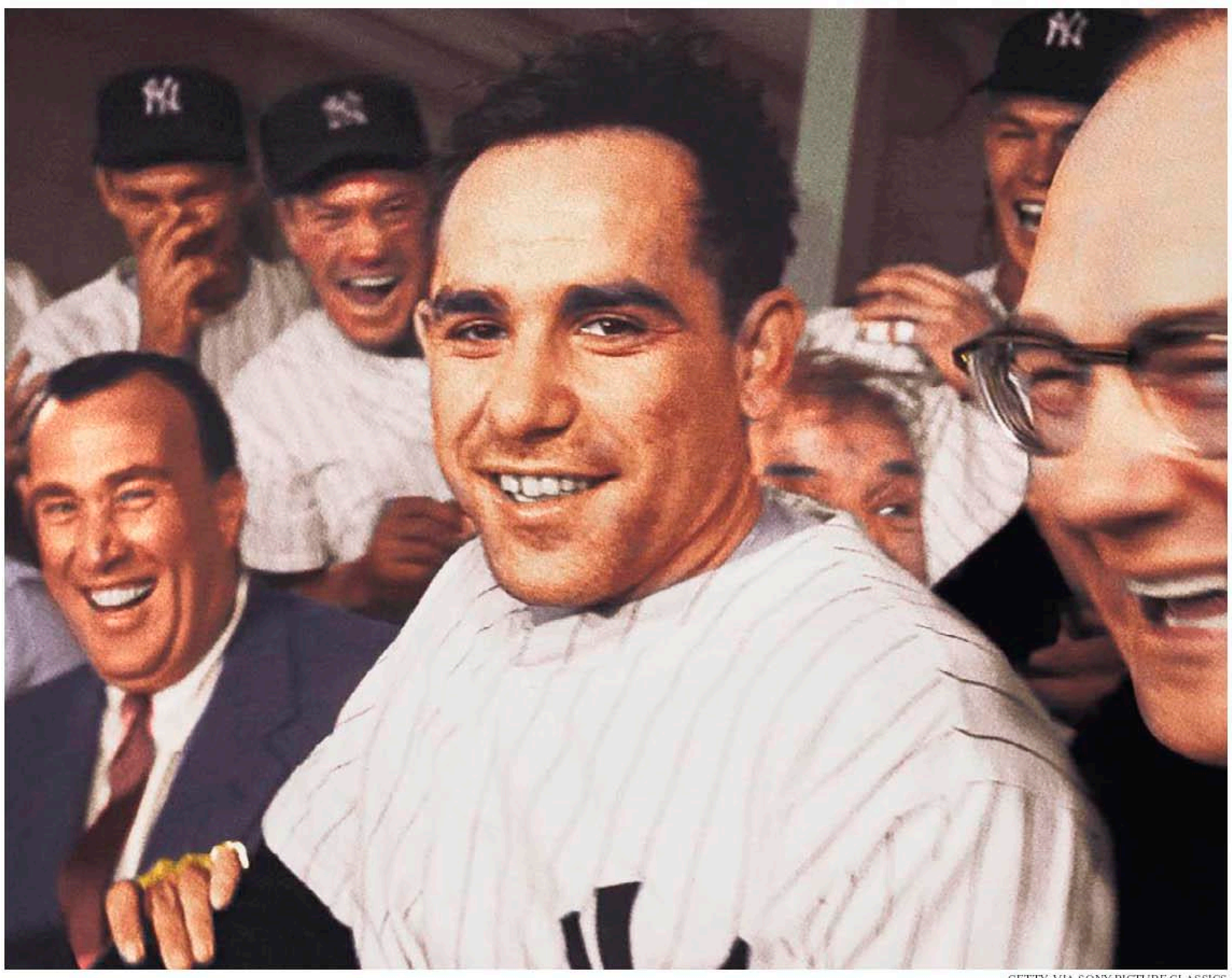
It's these kinds of things that make you wonder. The New York Philharmonic has hailed Dudamel as Leonard Bernstein resurrected, as the man who will return the orchestra to the stature that it has, in truth, enjoyed only periodically in its history. But whatever else Bernstein was, he was a distinctive conductor. Who knows? Maybe Dudamel can become one, too. But he has work to do.

Gustavo Dudamel, top, will conduct the New York Philharmonic this month. Left, El Sistema students do a "wave" after performing in 2012 for Dudamel in Caracas, Venezuela, where he led the Los Angeles Philharmonic, below.



Going to Bat For a Rare Gem In the Majors

A new documentary argues that Yogi Berra was not just a malaprop-prone, beloved celebrity, but also a baseball legend.



GETTY, VIA SONY PICTURE CLASSICS

By LORNE MANLY

In the latest edition of Bartlett's Familiar Quotations, there's a sports figure who towers over the competition.

Among the nine sayings attributed to one Lawrence Peter Berra, the New York Yankees catcher better known as Yogi, are phrases that may seem nonsensical at first, but on further reflection offer wisdom for the ages.

"You can observe a lot by watching."

"It was déjà vu all over again."

And there's "It ain't over till it's over," which provides the title for a new documentary about Yogi's life.

"It Ain't Over" aims to be a corrective to the caricature implanted in the cultural consciousness of Yogi as an amiable clown, a malaprop-prone catcher who looked as if he were put together with spare parts. But Yogi was not only a cuddly pitchman for insurance, beer and chocolate milk, an inspiration for a certain cartoon bear, and a stand-up guy beloved by teammates; he was, the film argues, one of the best baseball players who ever lived.

"This guy was criminally overlooked his whole life, at every stage," said Sean Mullin, the film's director.

The documentary, which opened Friday, is intensely personal, tapping the eldest of Yogi's 11 grandchildren to serve as a narrator with no pretense to objectivity in fighting for her grandfather's legacy.

It was a relatively recent slight that encapsulates the film's defining thesis and yields the opening scene. During the All-Star Game in 2015, Major League Baseball honored the four players voted by fans as the greatest living legends. Watching that night with her grandfather, Lindsay Berra remembers becoming infuriated that Yogi had not made the cut.

Mullin and Lindsay Berra, in separate interviews, emphasized that they meant no offense to the four greats honored that night — Willie Mays, Hank Aaron, Sandy Koufax and Johnny Bench. They just fervently believe that Yogi should have been the fifth man walking on the field that night in Cincinnati.

"I always thought from the beginning that I figuratively wanted to put Grandpa back in the picture with the documentary," said Lindsay Berra, who is an executive producer on the film.

The filmmakers marshal the statistics and an impressive array of former players and other baseball experts to back up their claim. Yogi, who died in 2015 at 90, was a core part of 10 World Series championship teams as a player, more than anyone else. He won three Most Valuable Player awards, played in All-Star games in 15 straight years and in 1956 caught the only perfect game in World Series history. And only two major leaguers have ever hit more than 350 home runs while striking out fewer than 450 times: Joe DiMaggio and Yogi.

The statistic that most impresses Lindsay Berra comes from 1950. That season, Yogi went to the plate 656 times and struck out just 12 times: "That to me will always be astonishing, because guys today strike out 12 times in a weekend."

All this passionate lobbying is not mere special familial pleading. Jon Pessah, who wrote the 2020 biography "Yogi: A Life Behind the Mask" (and is not in the film), said the idea that Yogi's baseball prowess has been overlooked "is 100 percent true."

Besides the hitting feats, Yogi willed himself into becoming a terrific defensive catcher and was expert at guiding his temperamental pitchers. (During Don Larsen's perfect game in the 1956 World Series, he did not shake off one of the 97 pitches Yogi called.)

"After studying his career, you say, wow, this guy carried the Yankees in the '50s," a decade that bridged DiMaggio and Mickey Mantle, Pessah said. "You look at what he meant on the field and at the plate, he was a force."

The unfair, and incomplete, perception of Yogi has much to do with his stubby stature and comparisons with his famous teammates. DiMaggio was slick and polished, and married to Marilyn Monroe; Mantle was the blue-eyed, golden-haired, all-American boy from Oklahoma. Yogi? Well, no demeaning or belittling description seemed off-limits to the writers who covered him. Early in his career, a Life magazine article referred to him as "knock-kneed" and "barrel-shaped," and likened his running style to that of "a fat girl in a tight skirt." That was all in one sentence.

His first manager called him an ape. In newspaper and magazine articles, Yogi's looks were compared to those of a gargoyle, a gorilla and an orangutan.



EVELYN FREJA FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

"Can you imagine reporters writing today that someone looked like a gorilla and was too ugly to be a Yankee?" Lindsay Berra said.

But Yogi ultimately didn't mind playing the butt of jokes, sloughing them off as just another test of character.

"I think he knew inside who he was," Mullin said. "There was a real confidence at a very base level."

Growing up the fourth child of Italian immigrants in St. Louis, Yogi quit school after eighth grade to help support his family, although he pretty much just wanted to play baseball. Constantly underestimated, he ultimately signed with the Yankees. He served during World War II and was in a rocket boat at Omaha Beach on D-Day.

Back from the war, he played on a Yankees farm team for a year before being called up late in the 1946 season. He was in the majors for good.

'This guy was criminally overlooked his whole life, at every stage.'

While proving naysayers wrong with his hitting prowess and improving defense, he also displayed deep-seated integrity. At a time when racism still thrived in Major League Baseball despite Jackie Robinson integrating the game in 1947, Yogi showed respect to Robinson and other Black players; he later became very good friends with Larry Doby, the first Black player in the American League.

But a charmed life — he also had a storybook marriage to his hometown sweetheart, Carmen — does not make for the most dramatic of films.

To add some texture to his portrait, Mullin examined both Yogi's larger cultural significance and his personal pain.

Yogi became one of the first celebrity endorsers, hawking the chocolate milk drink Yoo Hoo, Doodle fish oil, Camel cigarettes and, really leaning into the persona later in life, Miller Lite and Aflac insurance. "He never resented the way he was viewed but he was savvy enough to know it made business sense," Pessah said.

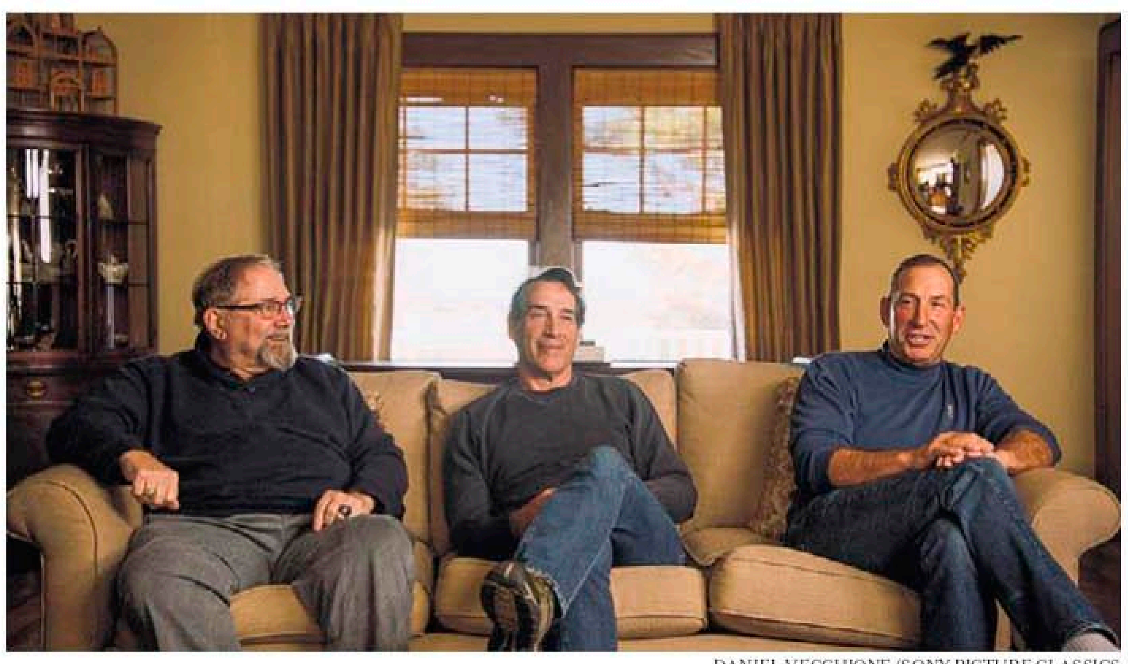
Yogi's son Dale followed him into the majors, but a promising career was derailed by a cocaine addiction. Rehab didn't help, and neither did encouragement from his family. It took an ultimatum, delivered by Yogi, at an intervention in 1992.

"You're not going to be my son anymore unless you make a decision to not do drugs again," Dale Berra said his father told him. He has been clean since.

The other deep wound in Yogi's life came in 1985, inflicted by the Yankees owner George Steinbrenner. Serving as manager for Steinbrenner was a decidedly unsafe proposition, and 16 games into Yogi's second season, he was fired. What angered Yogi most wasn't the firing, it was that Steinbrenner didn't have the guts (or decency) to deliver the blow himself. Yogi, always a man of his word, vowed never to return to Yankee Stadium until Steinbrenner apologized.

It took nearly 14 years before a rapprochement was brokered, leading to Yogi Berra Day at the stadium in July 1999. Forty-three years after the World Series perfect game, Don Larsen was reunited with his former battery mate to throw out the ceremonial first pitch.

Yogi didn't have a glove with him, so he borrowed one from a Yankees catcher at the time, Joe Girardi. Those there that day still marvel at what they then witnessed. David Cone proceeded to pitch another perfect game for the Yankees. A life well lived had its magical coda.



DANIEL VECCHIONE/SONY PICTURE CLASSICS

Top, Yogi Berra in his playing days. Middle, the director Sean Mullin and Lindsay Berra, Yogi's granddaughter. Above, Yogi's sons, Larry, Tim and Dale Berra.

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Art to Get Carried Away With

The Counterpublic event helps lift up St. Louis neighborhoods.

By SIDDHARTHA MITTER

ST. LOUIS — Counterpublic, the innovative public art exhibition in this city that is holding its second edition this spring, cultivates its distinctiveness.

Its first iteration, in 2019, was a hyperlocal concept: a triennial at storefront scale, bringing projects by St. Louis and national artists to parks, bakeries and taquerias on Cherokee Street, on the city's south side.

This year it follows again a geographic method. But its footprint is much bigger, with 37 commissions along a six-mile axis. They range from monumental to barely there.

Some are made to stay. Damon Davis, who earned notice for his art around the 2014 Ferguson protests, has built a tribute to Mill Creek Valley, the bustling hub of Black St. Louis that the city abruptly razed in 1959. It is a major public sculpture with eight pillars that embed names and memories of residents. They stand on the plaza of a new soccer stadium, with more pillars planned for other sites along a one-mile route.

In long-neglected North St. Louis, the British Ghanaian architect David Adjaye is erecting a sculpture of rammed-earth walls in a pattern that recalls the symbology of Ghana's Akan people on the grounds of the Griot Museum of Black History, a gift to this strapped community institution. And Jordan Weber, a regenerative land sculptor from Des Moines, is building a permanent rainwater garden for a community land trust.

Other projects are more abstract. A performance video by the choreographer Will Rawls, for instance, offers a mood map of the intersection of Jefferson Avenue, the thoroughfare that the show follows, and Interstate 44. It features the dancer Heather Himes Beal and screens in locations where it was filmed, including a library and a McDonald's. (It's also online.)

In a riverfront industrial zone, a sound-and-video work by the artist X (previously Santiago X) is projected after dark onto a bluff; it evokes how damming and channeling the Mississippi broke human connection to the river. A newspaper box in front of the city sewer agency holds a publication by Virgil B/G Taylor, a Berlin-based artist who has embarked on a kind of technical-poetic study of the sewer system, also yielding an Instagram chatbot.

In a more participatory register, the local artist Simiya Sudduth has created a mural on Jefferson but also welcomes visitors in her vintage travel trailer turned healing space. Juan William Chávez, also based in St. Louis, has opened up his native bee garden.

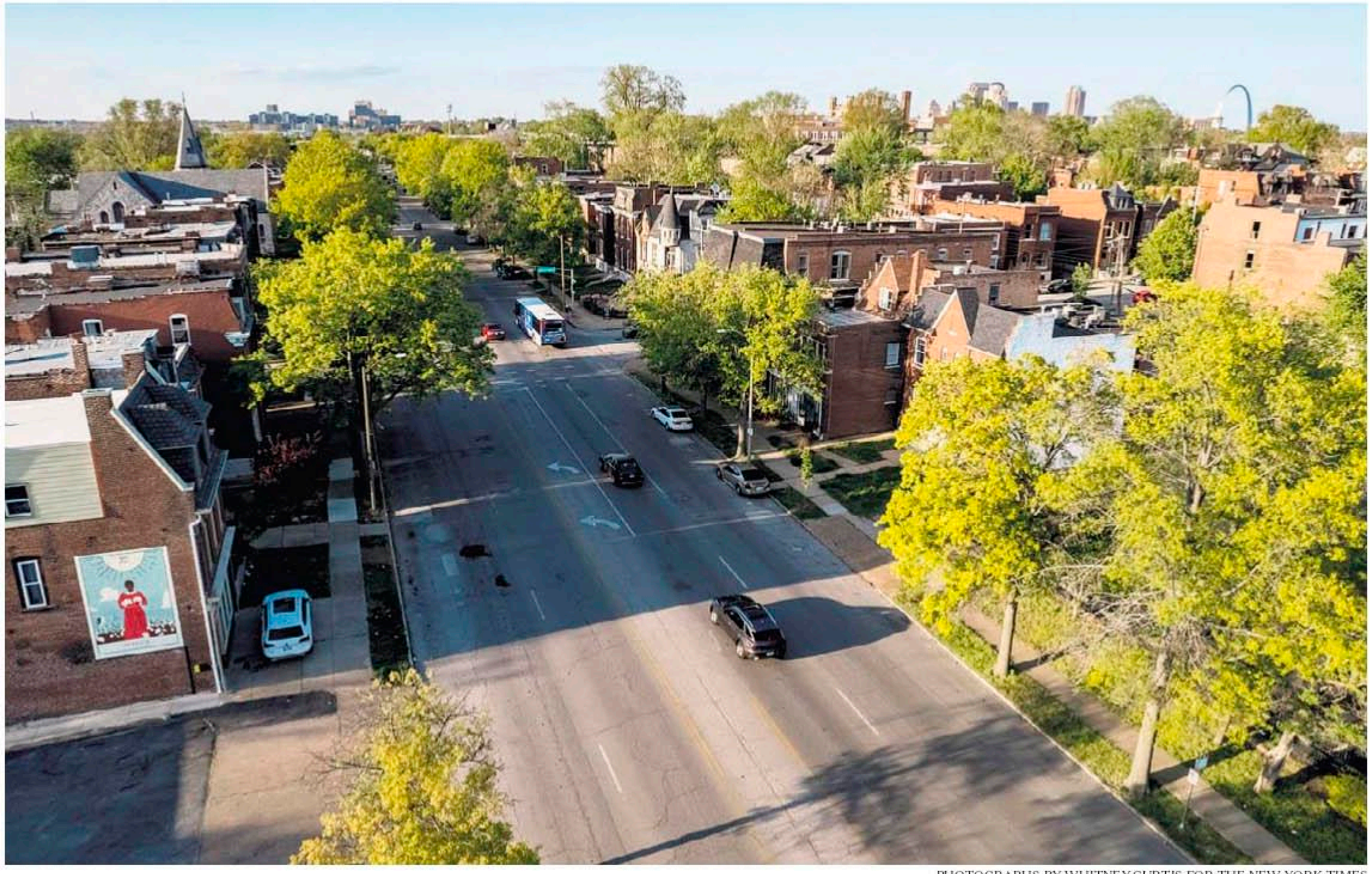
Woven through Counterpublic is some pointed urban sociology. The Jefferson Avenue axis is not arbitrary. With downtown to one side and the wealthier western areas to the other, it traverses the city's core. Some stretches bear marks of chronic disinvestment, others of creeping gentrification, still others of brutal "urban renewal" clearance.

This isn't just context for the show: It's also the creative stakes. Every project seeks to restore erased histories, uphold people or institutions that were or might be displaced, or bolster those who live in the wake. The methods deployed are wildly diverse. This is a program of experiments, pushing the public-art envelope in many directions.

Counterpublic has lofty aims. Its title — drawn from social and feminist theory — refers to parts of the public excluded from official narratives and resources. For public art, this translates to a challenge: Who is really being served? In a time when cities use biennials and other festivals to promote themselves as creative hothouses and destinations, this show seeks to revolutionize the form.

The goal, James McAnally, its executive and artistic director, writes in the catalog, was to create "a triennial that allied itself with generational, cultural, economic and civic change; a post-pandemic, post-uprising exhibition demanding that we, as arts workers and artists, do more to repair our broken world."

Put that way, it's a tall order. According to the organizers, over half the $4.5 million budget will "remain in the community" through local assets or commissions. But the commitment is also to method. The show consulted extensively with residents to shape its priorities. It takes pride in collaborations with local cultural activists. It asserts an explicit stand for the return, or "re-matriation," of Indigenous land.



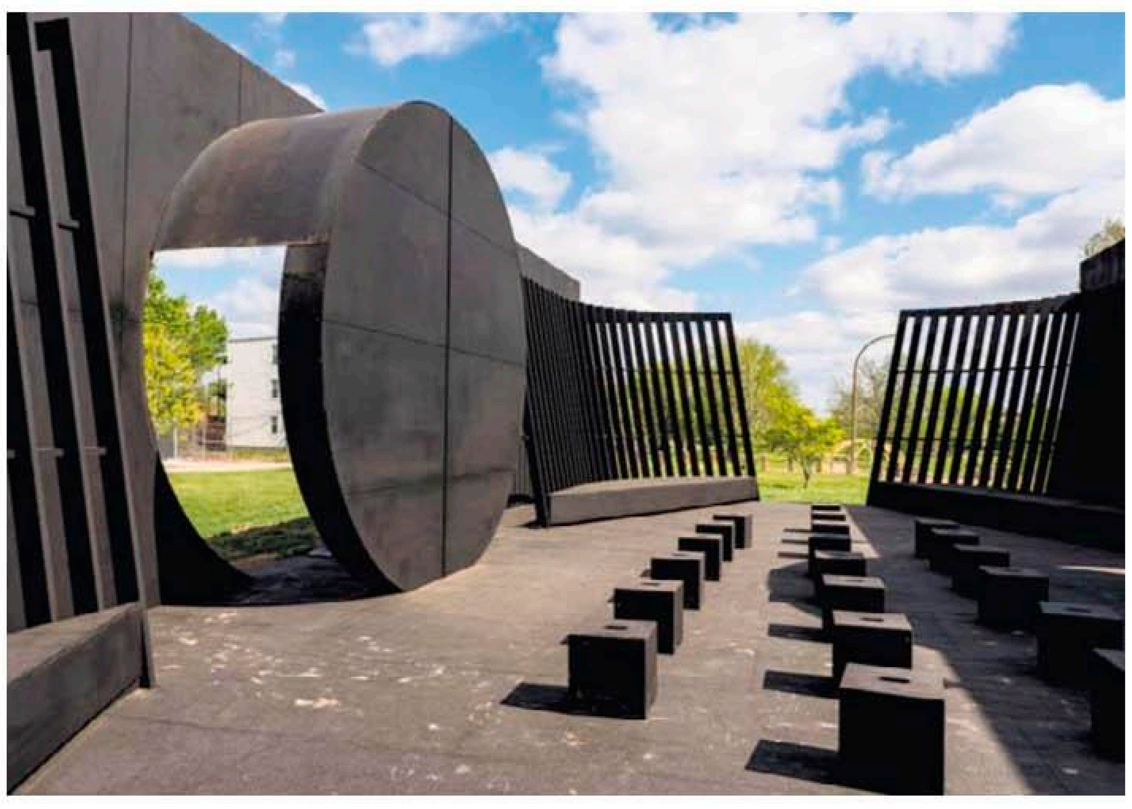
PHOTOGRAPHS BY WHITNEY CURTIS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

A program of experiments, pushing the public-art envelope in many directions.





Top from left: Damon Davis with "Pillars of the Valley"; and Simiya Sudduth with "Tha Muthaship." Second row, Sudduth's mural "Justice," at left. Above from left: "Give it Back: Stage Theory" by New Red Order; and "Renascence," by Matthew Angelo Harrison.





VIA COUNTERPUBLIC; PHOTO BY TYLER SMALL

Second row up, Torkwase Dyson's installation "Bird and Lava (Scott Joplin)." Above, a car procession that was part of Counterpublic's opening.

Study St. Louis a little, and the heightened stakes that Counterpublic declares make some sense — bolstering the implicit argument that this city is particularly well suited to incubate a new exhibition model, responsible and responsive.

In developing the show, the "curatorial ensemble" — McAnally, Allison Glenn, Risa Puleo, Katherine Simóne Reynolds, Diya Vij and New Red Order — read "The Broken Heart of America," a 2020 book by the Harvard historian Walter Johnson that presents St. Louis as the country's epicenter of violent racial capitalism and imperial expansion. The counterpoint, Johnson argues, is the city's strong radical tradition, from cross-racial labor activism in the 19th century to the Ferguson protests.

Move along the route, and there's little denying how blunt power shaped the landscape. Sugarloaf Mound, at the show's southern tip, is the last remaining Indigenous mound in a city once known for them. (St. Louis is part of the greater Cahokia area, seat of a major pre-Columbian civilization.) You reach it by a side road in the shadow of Interstate 55.

In 2009, the Osage Nation purchased back the tallest section of the mound and removed the house that stood on it. It is now fenced off, and not part of the show, but the pivot for several projects. Above the highway, billboards by New Red Order and Anna Tsouhlarakis urge motorists to question their relation to the land. At its foot, the mother-son duo Anita and Nokosee Fields have placed 40 wood platforms marked with Osage patterns, adorned with ribbons, accompanied by an audio work.

After the show, these platforms will be distributed in the Osage Nation in Oklahoma — reinscribing the ties between ancestral land and places where people were sent. As for the mound, Counterpublic has pledged its support to Osage efforts to purchase its remaining sections, on which two private houses still stand.

Moving north, you pass a neighborhood where avenues named for U.S. states cross streets named for Native nations, the grid itself a metaphor for order and conquest. At corners like Cherokee and Tennessee — an association that brings up the Trail of Tears — Counterpublic has installed "Erased History Markers" that retell these facts.

Mill Creek Valley too was made to vanish, so much that Davis, the sculptor of the pillars, had not heard of it until recently. The New York-based artist Steffani Jemison tackles this erasure in another vein: Her sound work, a collaboration with the storytellers Jackie and Papa Wright, plays in several gondolas of the Ferris wheel at Union Station. Soaring high, you hear a kind of elegy: names and locations of Black theaters lost in the demolition.

Entering North St. Louis, Jefferson Avenue passes the location of the infamous Pruitt-Igoe housing projects — where many Mill Creek residents landed until those buildings too were torn down in the 1970s. That site remains vacant today. Just beyond it, a military geospatial intelligence campus is under construction.

That facility's growth at the edge of the once elegant, now rundown St. Louis Place neighborhood has spurred fears of yet another wave of displacement. (Boosters argue that it will benefit the area and spur Black wealth creation.) Counterpublic's northern cluster here includes Adjaye's work (to be inaugurated in June) and a massive black sculpture by Torkwase Dyson that looks like a vessel crossed with a giant sundial; enter and you hear sound based on Scott Joplin's ragtime, a St. Louis invention.

Does it all work? There's no disputing the seriousness. This is a deeply thought exhibition that has set itself a high degree of difficulty. It aims to create tangible effects while treading lightly; to amplify grassroots activism without overwhelming it; to model a practice nationally while committed to one city.

It is not entirely an insurgent act. Counterpublic's co-founder with McAnally is Lee Broughton, who is married to Chrissy Taylor, the president and chief executive of Enterprise Holdings and a scion of one of the city's most prominent business families. The couple are principal backers of the exhibition overall and have funded the $1 million Adjaye project.

Involved too is St. Louis City SC, the Major League Soccer franchise whose stadium hosts the first set of Davis's memorial pillars. (Broughton is part of its ownership group, and its chief brand architect.) The pillars themselves are commissioned by Great Rivers Greenway, a public agency developing amenities across three counties.

The point here is that Counterpublic, for all its radical aspirations, remains enfolded in the kind of public-private-philanthropic architecture typical for biennials and public art in the United States. It's fair to wonder whether curatorial, political and funding interests will stay aligned in future editions.

For now, the exhibition is particularly affecting when its touch is lightest. Take three sculptures by the Detroit artist Matthew Angelo Harrison, installed for the show's duration at the George B. Vashon Museum of African American History — another community treasure, in a former mansion and funeral home.

Made by encasing African statuettes in polyurethane resin to compelling visual effect, the works are remarkable. But even more so is the museum's vast collection of Black St. Louis memorabilia, amassed by its owner, Calvin Riley. That Harrison's works do not deflect from this trove is part of their success.

In the loveliest project, the New Jersey-based sound artists Mendi and Keith Obadike worked with the St. Louis producer Mvstermind and local car clubs to hold a parade on the opening weekend. Two dozen Jeeps decked in colorful flags led a procession on long loops on the north side, stereos playing an original ballad remixed by 10 local producers.

It was a moment when this ambitious exhibition relinquished control to local culture keepers rarely found in biennials or museums. It was also ephemeral by intention. The aim, the artists said, was to wrap the neighborhood in love. Public art often aims for permanence or impact. The truest trace, it felt as the Jeeps pulled in, is the vibe.

THE MET

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***Van Gogh's Cypresses* is made possible by the Iris & B. Gerald Cantor Foundation.**

Additional support is provided by the Janice H. Levin Fund, Katharine Rayner, and the Aaron I. Fleischman and Lin Lougheed Fund.

This exhibition is supported by an indemnity from the Federal Council on the Arts and the Humanities.

Vincent van Gogh. Left: *The Starry Night* (detail), 1889. The Museum of Modern Art, New York, Acquired through the Lillie P. Bliss Bequest (by exchange), 1941. Conservation was made possible by the Bank of America Art Conservation Project. Image © The Museum of Modern Art / Licensed by SCALA / Art Resource, NY. Right: *Wheat Field with Cypresses* (detail), 1889. The Met, New York, Purchase, The Annenberg Foundation Gift, 1993.

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Julia Hetta. *Composite Image*, 2023. The Met, New York, © Julia Hetta.

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Additional support is provided by The Daniel and Estrellita Brodsky Foundation, the Barrie A. and Deedee Wigmore Foundation, Cynthia Hazen Polsky and Leon B. Polsky, and Vivian and Jim Zelter.

Lauren Halsey. *the eastside of south central los angeles hieroglyph prototype architecture (I)* (detail), 2023. The Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Roof Garden, The Met, New York.

A Modern Country Star in a Hybrid Mold

Bailey Zimmerman blends genres and finds success.

By JON CARAMANICA

NASHVILLE — The spoils of fame are coming fast for the emerging country star Bailey Zimmerman. The Texas singer-songwriter Cody Johnson gave him a standing offer to come ride horses at his ranch. The Nickelback frontman Chad Kroeger flew him on a private plane to his home in Canada to spend some time writing songs. The guitar whiz Gary Clark Jr. and the singing ex-rapper Jelly Roll partied with him backstage at the CMT Awards.

Recently, Kid Rock had him over for dinner at his ranch outside Nashville.

"He freestyled for us at dinner, and we went in and he showed us his pool and his bowling alley and all his guns," Zimmerman said last month, still a little awe-struck, enthusiastically sipping a Bacardi and Coke at the bar at Topgolf. "He let me do a TikTok in one of the bars!"

Zimmerman, 23, is boisterous and amiable, openhearted and still a little stupefied by it all. Only two and a half years have passed since he posted a clip of himself singing one verse of an original song — his first ever — to TikTok, went to bed and woke up to a million views.

Now, he has the No. 1 song at country radio, "Rock and a Hard Place"; is the first opening act on the current Morgan Wallen stadium tour; and last week released his debut album, the comfortably bruising and appealingly bruised "Religiously. The Album."

But this is how Nashville works now, at least sometimes. Social media is increasingly dictating how country music is evolving, and sometimes that's in unexpected, lightly chaotic directions.

"I never wanted to be, like, 'country,'" Zimmerman said earlier that day, at the East Nashville home belonging to his producer Austin Shawn, where he records all of his music, cutting vocals in a closet. "Whatever I want to make that day, that's what I want to be. Some days you'll see me in penny loafers and then sometimes you'll see me in Air Force 1s."

He was indeed in Air Force 1s, gray ones. (He started wearing them — he tries not to wear the same pair twice — when his manager suggested he needed to step up from the Vans he used to favor.) He'd paired them with a lightly distressed denim jacket and jeans. His longish, tousled hair was swept back under a black cap with a BZ logo (which he'd later sign and give to the Topgolf staff for a charity auction), and he wore a BZ diamond pendant on a chain around his neck.

"You know, I can go to a farm and put boots on and take care of 500 head of cattle and do all that," he said. "But I just don't, like, act 'country' I guess. You know what I'm saying?"

Zimmerman is a modern country star in a hybrid mold. He has a rigorously raspy voice and sings with power he's mainlined from his primary influences, many of which are rock acts: Nickelback, Three Days Grace, Foo Fighters and, most crucially, the Southern-rock bruisers Hinder — bands that specialize in puffed-chest emoting. Zimmerman's favorite band is the melodic hard rock outfit Tesla. (He recently enthusiastically posted a video of the frontman Jeff Keith singing the hook of "Rock and a Hard Place.")

At Topgolf, the music was blasting loudly and the songs Zimmerman had the most electrified reaction to were the pop-punk anthem "My Own Worst Enemy" by the sleaze-rock band Lit, and the unruly glam plosion "Time to Pretend" by MGMT.

But he is also clearly an inheritor of Nashville's recent crop of shaggy-at-the-edges superstars — singers like the powerhouse Luke Combs, or the genre's reigning titan, Wallen, who have collectively iterated beyond the boyfriend and gentleman country of the mid-2010s and whose songwriting and commitment to genre mark them as somewhat more traditional than the bro-country breakouts of the early 2010s.

'Dogs don't bark at parked cars.'

Shawn said that "the door has been opened" by artists like Combs and Wallen, "even people like Zach Bryan and Tyler Childers." Shawn, who produced or co-produced every song on the album, added, "Is he a country singer? Or a rock singer? Or a folk/Americana singer with a little bit of a gritty edge?"

Those lines are blurry in Nashville's contemporary mainstream. Given that pre-existing context, Zimmerman has floated to the top of Nashville's rising class with remarkable ease and speed.

The ascent has been even more remarkable given his starting point. Zimmerman is from Louisville, Ill., a town in the Southern part of the state with a population of just over 1,000 and proximate to not much. ("A two-hour drive to get to a mall to go school shopping.") His father owned a trucking business and repossessed vehicles; his mother owned the family car dealership with Zimmerman's



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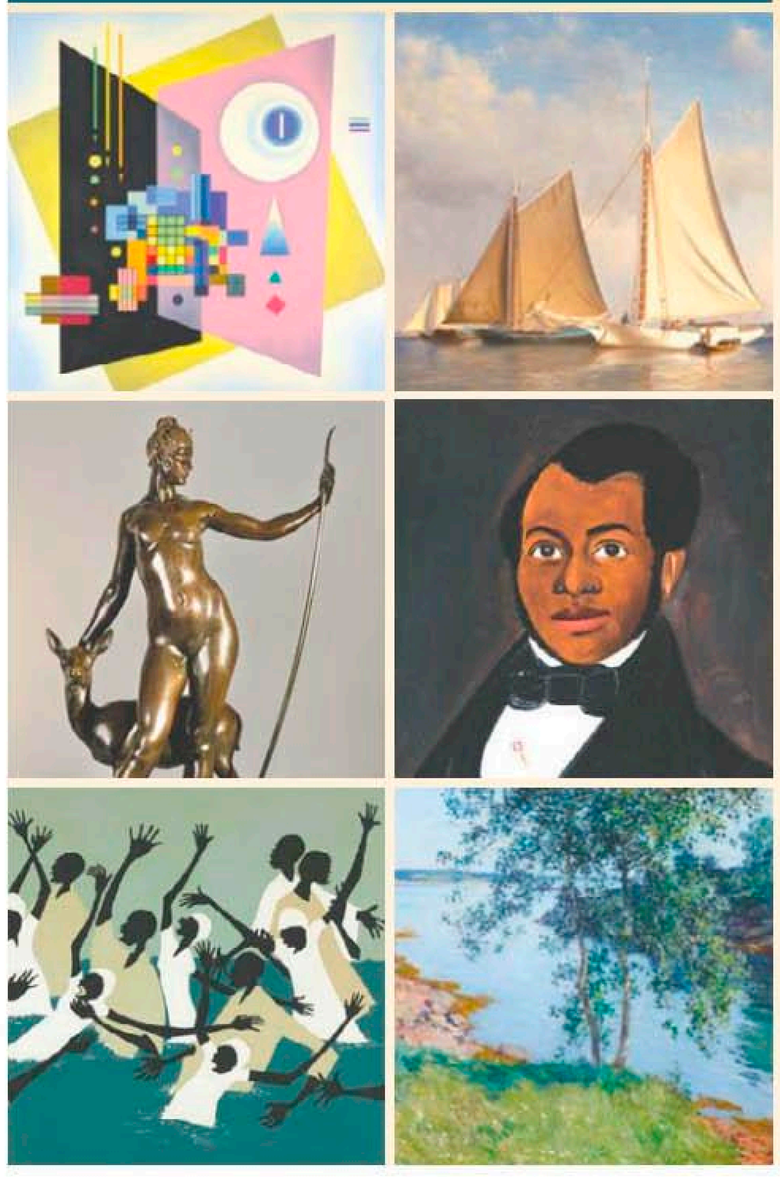
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Thomas Colville Fine Art
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LECTURES

Saturday, May 13

2pm
Some Old Curiosity Shops: Whistler, Commerce, and the Art of Urban Change
David Park Curry
Independent Scholar

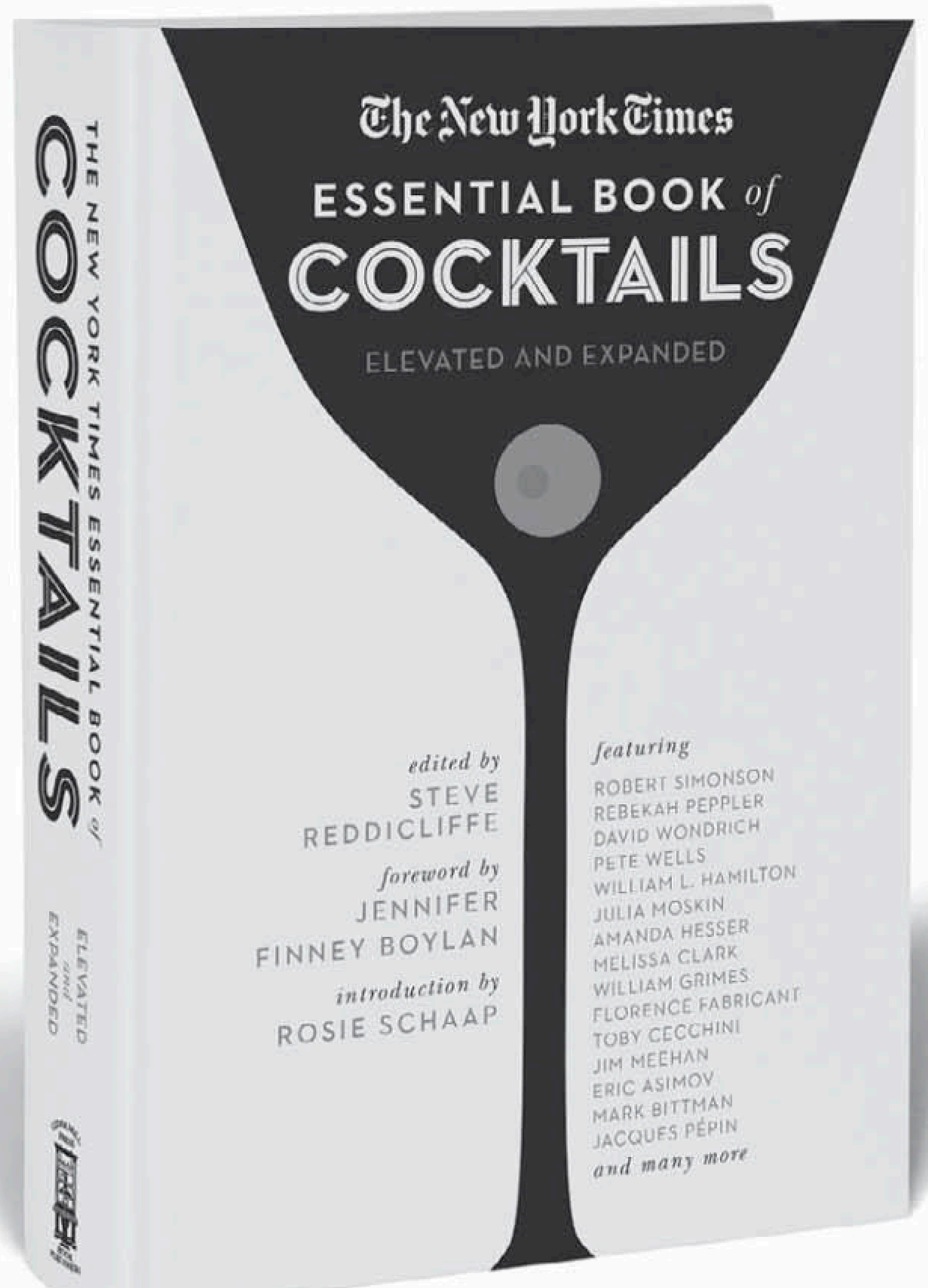
4pm
Variations on a Theme: Joseph Stella's Visionary Nature
Stephanie Heydt
Margaret and Terry Stent Curator of American Art
High Museum of Art, Atlanta

Sunday, May 14

2pm
The Painting of Raymond Jonson: American Modernism from Chicago to Santa Fe
Herbert R. Hartel, Jr.
Adjunct Associate Professor
Queens College, City University of New York

4pm
Omissions from the Canon: Artistic Representations of Industry Along the Hudson River
Annette Blaugrund
Former Director, National Academy Museum and School of Fine Arts

Admission to the Fair and lectures is complimentary; seating is on a first-come basis.



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ERIC RYAN ANDERSON FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

grandfather and uncle.

When Zimmerman struck out on his own, he took on some of the hardest physical labor available: working on natural gas pipelines in West Virginia. "The gnarliest most chaotic work," he said. "Screaming, yelling, breaking stuff. Hard hats, walkie talkies, whatever they had in their hands, they'd chuck it at you. Like, you'd walk home with black eyes, bruises from people chucking drinks on you and just belittling you." On one particularly unpleasant assignment, he was fired in a series of events that included a coffee thrown in his face, a broken shovel wielded as a weapon and a brawl in the living room of his abode that smashed the coffee table.

Even still, he maintains a soft spot for the work. "I was so into pipeline, man. Like, I loved working hard. I've always loved working hard. Like, I loved getting my hands dirty and coming home and having oil on my face," he said. "I just felt like, man, there's no possible way I'm going to ever make it out of this. I'm going to be 65, 70 years old, hips broken, back broken, still have nothing to show for it."

He moved home and began custom building lifted trucks — pickup trucks with super tall wheels — and posted videos about them on TikTok, eventually amassing a respectable 60,000 followers. In his earliest TikToks, his hair is prim and short, and he has braces on his teeth.

One day in late 2020, Gavin Lucas, a high school acquaintance who wrote songs, heard Zimmerman singing on Snapchat and was impressed. For a couple of weeks, they fiddled around and eventually, on Christmas night, wrote a verse for a new song. The resulting TikTok changed both of their lives — Zimmerman resigned from his union the following day. Within a couple of weeks, they had finished the song — the rowdy country-rock number "Never Comin' Home" — Googled information on how to record songs, and driven to Nashville to cut it in a real studio, splitting the $3,000 cost. (Zimmerman borrowed his half from his mother.)

Attention came at a disorienting speed. When Zimmerman first met Chief Zaruk, an industry insider who would become one of his managers, "I thought he was the mayor of Nashville, 'cause that's how everybody introduced him on the Zoom call," Zimmerman said. "I'm just like, man, why is the mayor of Nashville trying to sign me?"

But the kismet continued. "Morgan was one of the first artists I ever met. He was walking up to Big Loud just randomly," Zimmerman said, referring to offices for the label and management company. "And he was like, 'Hey, man, I'm a big fan of your song



MONICA SCHIPPER/GETTY IMAGES

Bailey Zimmerman, left, and above at the Stagecoach Festival in Indio, Calif., last month.

'Fall in Love.' And I'm like, holy crap!" He continued, "Morgan has just been such a big part of my life since 2015, since 16, 'Up Down,' 'Chain Smokin'' and 'Spin You Around.' All that stuff has just been my life."

Last October, he released his debut EP, "Leave the Light On," which remains in the Top 50 of the all-genre Billboard album chart. This is owing to his success at radio, but also to Zimmerman's relentless presence on TikTok and Instagram. He is his own best promoter, and his success underscores how even Nashville, the most hidebound of music industry towns, is increasingly powerless against the tide of social media.

Lucas said that Zimmerman's attitude has been crucial to the speed of his success. "I love how excited he gets and how much he jumps the gun," he said of Zimmerman's no-brakes ascent. "I don't think we'd be where we are today if Bailey wasn't that enthusiastic. I know we wouldn't."

"The TikTok and the Instagram, me doing that every day, that is the brand, of course," Zimmerman said. "That is the company. And now it's like, whoa, whoa, whoa, label, hold on. I now have an avenue of my own to make me successful by myself."

That said, TikTok provides, and TikTok takes away, as seen in Zimmerman's first true public fumble — a viral video of him singing woefully off-pitch at a concert. But rather than duck it, Zimmerman posted through the embarrassment, apologizing and taking his lumps with a sense of humor and as much enthusiasm as when he posts about a new song.

"I heard a saying the other day, and I'm living by that now," he said. "Dogs don't bark at parked cars."

And so he'll keep speeding. Sometimes literally, in the white 2023 Corvette with a red interior that he bought in cash after "Fall in Love" went to No. 1 at country radio, his first splurge. (He also has an even taller truck than his old one that's in the shop being built to spec.)

"I try to keep my sins to a limit, of course, always," he said. "But of course, dude, I cuss every day. I drink, I smoke, I harm my temple." And so he's also taken to the trappings of being a star who needs to perform at a high level — vitamin IV drips, injections of the anti-inflammatory treatment N.A.D.+ and cryotherapy. He's put both of his parents on his payroll and is trying to encourage his uncle Brent, whose guitar Zimmerman used to practice on as a child, to become a full-time songwriter.

Unexpected things keep happening to him — most recently, the chaotic cross-genre collaboration on the soundtrack of the upcoming "Fast X" film "Won't Back Down," with the Irish crooner Dermot Kennedy and the prolific rapper YoungBoy Never Broke Again, making for a trio of blood-letter vocalists — but Zimmerman still prefers to operate as if there are no guarantees.

He recalled playing one of his first songs for his father. "You need to chase this," he said his father told him.

"He's like: 'I wasted my whole life not chasing nothing, man. You need to chase something.'"

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THE FLORIDA MAN OF FORMULA 1

LOGAN SARGEANT IS THE SPORT'S U.S. FACE. WILL EUROPEANS ABIDE AMERICAN FRILLS?

SAM BUSH FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

By MICHAEL M. GRYNBAUM

GROVE, ENGLAND — Logan Sargeant, the only American driver in Formula 1, is zipping around the narrow streets of Baku, Azerbaijan, at roughly 200 miles an hour. His head bounces inside the cockpit as a wheel shudders over a rumble strip. It's hard to hear over the banshee shriek of his V6 engine, carrying three times the horsepower of a run-of-the-mill Porsche Carrera.

Then the noise stops, and Baku vanishes. We're inside a low-slung brick building nestled in the Oxfordshire countryside. The track, projected onto a CinemaScope-size wraparound screen, was a mirage, part of a sophisticated training simulator. (F1 rules prohibit driving the real cars between races.) Mr. Sargeant climbs out of a replica driver's seat wearing athletic pants. He won't need a fireproof suit until later.

In three weeks, Mr. Sargeant will do this for real: wind whipping his visor, G-forces of up to six times his body weight pressing on his neck, the ever-present threat of a catastrophic crash as he is watched by roughly 70 million people around the world. For now, it's time for lunch. "Is chili bad for you?" he asks, digging into a bowl at the team commissary. "I don't think it's that bad."

Reaching Formula 1, the highest level of international motorsports, is a big step for Mr. Sargeant, 22, a South Florida native who began racing rudimentary cars known as karts at 6 and this year joined the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

Logan Sargeant, 22, is the first American full-time driver on the Formula 1 racing circuit since 2007.

A Voice of Reason to Guide You Through Your 20s

By EMMA GOLDBERG

Meg Jay knows it's confusing to figure out what to do with your life.

Imagine you've been plunked into the ocean. You can't spot land. You're treading water, your arms are spaghetti-limp and all you see is blue. You get the sense that this could be it forever: you against the currents.

It's a little dramatic. But it is one of the metaphors that the clinical psychologist Meg Jay has shared to describe being in your 20s in her cult classic book "The Defining Decade" — and it is the metaphor that persistently triggers the most explosive reader response. Dozens of 20-somethings have emailed her, making reference to the ocean metaphor with: "Yes!" They resonate because they, too, feel adrift.

Twenty-somethings are not short on sources of career advice. They're told to hustle, hustle, hustle and to chill out; they're told that their professional clocks are ticking, and also that 30 is the new 20 and they have all the time in the world.

Into that morass came Dr. Jay's book, first published in 2012, which has since sold more than 500,000 copies and spawned book clubs, TikTok endorsements and a zealous following. Her advice falls somewhere between "there, there" and tough love: Start planning for the future, but don't freak out. When she published a new edition in 2021, Dr. Jay found that the reach of "The Defining Decade" kept expanding, answering to 20-something confusion that is now textured with the pressures of social media and the turbulence of the pandemic. (Parents embrace it, too; Dr. Jay sometimes hears from mothers that all they asked for

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



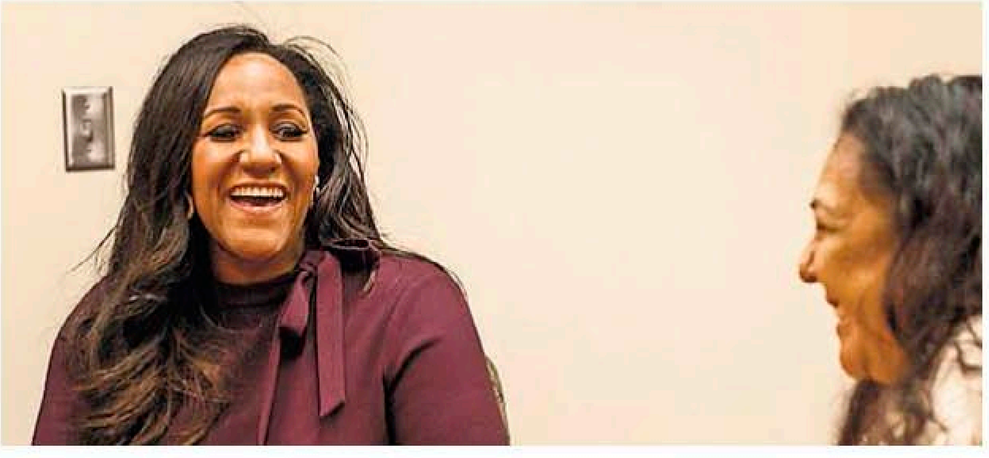
3 STRATEGIES

Flirtations with debt default add an element of risk to 'risk free' United States bonds. BY JEFF SOMMER



3 WORK FRIEND

Even though the wedding is hers, the decision to contribute to a gift remains yours. BY ROXANE GAY



4 B FOR BELONGING

Amending their D.E.I. approach, companies hope to make the initiative less divisive. BY JENNIFER MILLER

WITH INTEREST

What's Up

LAST WEEK'S ESSENTIAL NEWS

5/7



CNN's Trumpcast

Former President Donald J. Trump had not appeared on CNN since 2016. But at a CNN town hall on Wednesday, Mr. Trump, the 2024 Republican front-runner, resumed the lies and name-calling that marked his presidency. Taking questions from Kaitlan Collins, he repeated misinformation about the 2020 election, called E. Jean Carroll, who won a suit accusing him of sexual abuse and defamation, a "wack job" and derided Ms. Collins as a "nasty person." When she tried to correct his lies, he talked over her. The audience cheered him on. Critics said giving him a platform was reckless. Chris Licht, CNN's chairman, said the event underscored that covering Mr. Trump would be "messy and tricky."

Inflation Is Slowing

A closely watched report on Wednesday showed that U.S. inflation had reached a milestone: April was the 10th straight month that the pace of price increases slowed. The Consumer Price Index climbed 4.9 percent from a year earlier, surpassing analysts' expectations — in a good way. Core inflation, which strips out volatile food and fuel costs, also fell slightly. The report comes on the heels of the Federal Reserve's 10th consecutive increase to its benchmark rate. The latest inflation data, along with other signs of a slowdown in the economy, could make the May increase the last one for now.

Elon Musk's Announcement

Elon Musk long ago asked users on Twitter if he should step down as chief executive. "I will abide by the results of this poll," he said. Almost 58 percent of the 17.5 million people who voted agreed that he should leave his post. But it was still a bit surprising when he announced on Friday that his successor would be Linda Yaccarino, the chair of global advertising and partnerships at NBCUniversal. Mr. Musk said Ms. Yaccarino would focus on business operations while he would continue on product design and technology.

CORRECTION

An article last Sunday about Elizabeth Holmes, the former chief executive of Theranos, who has been convicted of fraud, described incorrectly Ms. Holmes's description of an encounter she said she had during an emergency room visit with her child. She said it was a doctor who said, "I'm sure you're a better person than she is," not herself.

SO FAR THIS YEAR

Stocks were up.

S&P 500 INDEX, +7.4%

Mortgage rates were up.

BANKRATE.COM 30-YEAR FIXED, 6.84%, +0.23 POINTS

Jobless claims were up.

FOUR-WEEK MOVING AVERAGE, +11.0%

What's Next

A PREVIEW OF THE WEEK TO COME

5/14

Senate Hearings on the Banking Crisis

Two groups that have sought to blame each other for the recent bank failures will appear at Senate hearings this week — the heads of those banks and the federal regulators who oversee them. On Tuesday, Greg Becker, the former chief executive of Silicon Valley Bank, who stepped down after the bank's collapse in March, will testify before the Senate Banking Committee. Two former top executives from Signature Bank, which failed two days later, will also testify. They are expected to meet a harsh reception from lawmakers. In a letter to Mr. Becker, the committee chairman wrote, "You must answer for the bank's downfall." Regulators can expect a grilling, too, at a separate hearing on Thursday.

More Turmoil at Fox

Dominion Voting Systems' defamation suit against Fox News, which was settled for $787.5 million in April, may have been only the opening salvo in a long fight to hold the network accountable for airing misinformation about the 2020 election. Last week, Nina Jankowicz, a specialist in Russian disinformation and online harassment, filed a defamation suit against Fox. Fox still faces a defamation suit from another election technology company, Smartmatic, which is seeking $2.7 billion in damages. Meanwhile, Tucker Carlson, who was recently ousted at Fox and is still under contract, has said he is starting his own show on Twitter.



ILLUSTRATIONS BY GIULIO BONASERA

Report Cards for Big Box Stores

Walmart and Target, two of the country's largest retailers, will release their quarterly earnings reports this week, providing a glimpse at how inflation is affecting consumers. For the three months that ended in January, Walmart reported that its revenue was 7.3 percent higher than a year earlier and said December was its best month for sales at its U.S. stores in its history. But it warned of dimmer prospects for the rest of the fiscal year, suggesting that consumers' ability to absorb higher prices could be approaching its limit.

MARIE SOLIS

WHAT ELSE?

Goldman Sachs said that it would pay $215 million to settle a gender bias suit accusing the bank of paying women less than men. Disney said that it had narrowed its streaming losses but that revenue from its old-line TV channels had fallen sharply. And Peloton said it was recalling over two million exercise bikes.

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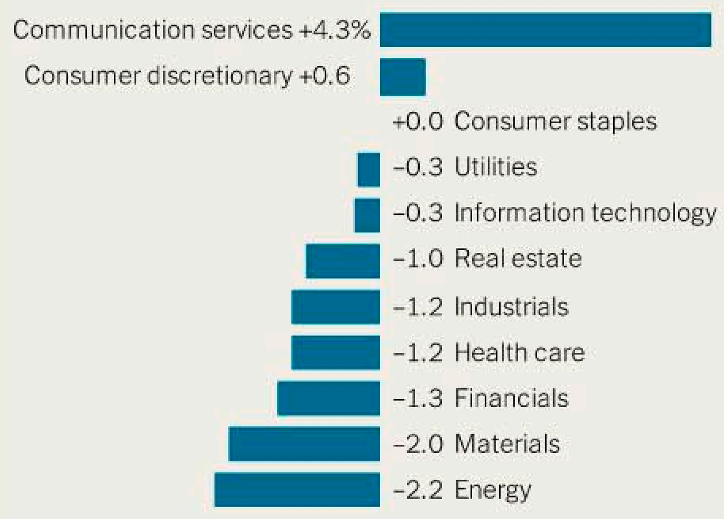
Markets Last Week

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S&P 500 Week's change: −0.3%



Industries Week's change



Best performers

		Friday's close	Week's change
1.	First Solar, Inc. (FSLR)	$231.69	+29.7%
2.	STERIS Plc (STE)	$210.85	+11.5
3.	Alphabet Inc. Class A (GOOGL)	$117.51	+11.3
4.	Alphabet Inc. Class C (GOOG)	$117.92	+11.0
5.	Albemarle Corporation (ALB)	$195.79	+9.0
6.	Akamai Technologies, Inc. (AKAM)	$85.32	+8.6
7.	McKesson Corporation (MCK)	$389.97	+6.6
8.	News Corporation Class A (NWSA)	$18.16	+6.1
9.	Advanced Micro Devices (AMD)	$95.26	+6.0
10.	News Corporation Class B (NWS)	$18.29	+6.0

Worst performers

		Friday's close	Week's change
1.	Catalent Inc. (CTLT)	$32.86	−31.2%
2.	Tyson Foods, Inc. Class A (TSN)	$48.87	−19.5
3.	PayPal Holdings, Inc. (PYPL)	$61.69	−17.7
4.	Intl. Flavors & (IFF)	$83.16	−13.8
5.	DISH Network (DISH)	$6.16	−13.5
6.	Comerica Incorporated (CMA)	$31.97	−12.3
7.	Paramount Global Class B (PARA)	$15.02	−10.9
8.	PerkinElmer, Inc. (PKI)	$116.30	−10.4
9.	Mosaic Company (MOS)	$35.35	−9.6
10.	Waters Corporation (WAT)	$271.00	−8.7

Leading international stock markets Week's change



Major stock market indexes

Consumer rates Last Week

— Borrowing Rate (30-year fixed mortgages) 6.8%
— Savings Rate (1 year CDs) 2.5%



Price of gas per gallon As of May 5

— Weekly average $3.48



WORK FRIEND | ROXANE GAY

You Don't Have to Pay for Her Happy Day



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MARGEAUX WALTER FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Q: I work for a nonprofit and live check to check. My colleagues and I have a shared lunchroom and lunch break. One of my colleagues is getting married and has spent many lunches discussing her extravagant wedding plans. My husband and I rode our bikes to a courthouse to tie the knot, so listening to the challenges of organizing a wedding that costs at least $100,000 is quite shocking. I find the entire wedding industry to be ridiculous, and this level of privilege is unfamiliar to me. I try to tune out as much as I can.

My colleagues plan to host a lunch and buy a wedding gift for her. My budget is extremely tight, and I bring my lunch to work every day because I don't have any extra money. I do not want to purchase lunch or donate to the gift. I donate to most causes (colleagues who lose family members or are having a baby). However, I just can't see myself purchasing a gift for someone who presents as entitled. I've decided to ignore the email and avoid work that day. How should I handle this situation? *ANONYMOUS*

It sounds as if you're harboring some resentment here, and given your circumstances, I understand. It's frustrating to live paycheck to paycheck while having to listen to someone blithely discussing the economics of her impending nuptials as if everyone can afford an extravagant wedding. Your colleague is probably sharing about her wedding because she's excited. She's also being a bit gauche and inconsiderate because you're her co-workers, not necessarily her close friends with whom she might more appropriately discuss such things.

You clearly don't like this person, so don't contribute to her wedding gift or lunch and don't give that choice a second thought. Social pressure is always at work when the workplace passes around the proverbial collection plate, but you can either abstain silently or explain that you can't afford any additional expenses right now. There is no shame at all in declining to contribute to something like this.

OVERCOMING INTERNALIZED ABLEISM

I've been sick with various chronic conditions my whole life. For most of my career I've been a workaholic, frequently working multiple jobs and well over 40 hours a week to make ends meet. For the past couple of years, I've had a full-time position I love and that I've been really good at, with a nonprofit whose mission I truly believe in.

But my chronic pain and fatigue have worsened. In January, I was struggling to make it through the workday. I asked my boss to switch to a new, more exciting project. However, I crashed and burned anyway and had to take three weeks of medical leave. I returned to work, but after only a couple weeks full time I was struggling again, so I asked to reduce my hours to 32 a week to try and prevent another crash. In the meantime, my original project has remained untouched.

In recent meetings, my boss has been highlighting my current projects and singing my praises to supervisors and colleagues. Instead of feeling happy or proud, I find myself thinking, "You're just saying that to convince everyone — including yourself — that I'm still worth it." I know that's my anxiety and internalized ableism talking, but I can't get that voice out of my head. How do I convince myself that I am, in fact, still a worthwhile employee? *GEORGIA, AUSTIN*

Please stop undermining yourself! It can be difficult to overcome the internalized negativity we harbor toward ourselves, particularly in an ableist world. It's easy to buy into the idea that if you're human, if you can't work yourself into the ground without consequence, you are failing. This is simply not true. To live in a body means that sometimes that body will struggle in one way or another. It is not a reflection on your inherent worth or your professional merits.

Managers aren't going to expend the effort to sing your praises unless they mean it. They don't need to convince themselves that you're doing so well. You have convinced your boss with your great work. I would encourage you to not worry about being a worthwhile employee. Decouple professional performance from self-worth. You are not your job. You are not a problem because you deal with chronic illness. The only person who needs to be convinced that you're worth it is you, and I hope you're able to do that.

BAD WORK GRANDMA

I have a co-worker I absolutely adore and who calls me her work grandson. There's just one small thing: She takes every opportunity to ask me to pray with her or to talk about Jesus, and I am Jewish. At first it wasn't too bad. When I returned to the office after Yom Kippur, she asked why I was out. After I told her, she asked what that was. This led to her saying, "Oh, well you know Jesus though, right?" I'll admit my response of "No, they don't teach us about him in Hebrew school" was a little snarky, but she and I have a relationship where we can joke around. More recently, though, she has taken to telling me about "a cabal of rich Satanists" who are "praying for the downfall of Christianity" and is asking me to pray with her for her safety (and the safety of all "children of the Lord"). I was at a loss for words, which she took to mean I agreed to pray for her. Now, she keeps asking me if I'm praying and "sharing the good word." I don't know how to tell her I'm getting uncomfortable — especially the language she used, cabal in particular, is a pretty common antisemitic dog whistle. I know she didn't mean any harm by it, but I feel really uncomfortable talking to her now.

Do you have advice on how to talk to her about this? I don't want to escalate it to management because I don't want her to get in trouble, but this feels like inappropriate workplace behavior. *MATT, NEW YORK CITY*

This is inappropriate workplace behavior. Just because someone does not mean harm does not mean harm is not done. Your co-worker may be charming and older, but I think she also knows exactly what she's doing. She is not merely ignorant about Judaism. She is firm in her belief that Jesus saves or whatever her Christian ideology is. Her dog whistling is mighty loud. She is proselytizing and trying to convert you. She is disrespecting and dismissing your faith.

Your discomfort is telling you something; heed that. I would confront her directly. Broach the subject by sharing how much you enjoy your friendly rapport but also make clear that your faith is as important to you as hers is to her. Then ask her for whatever would make you more comfortable in this dynamic. And just in case she really is unaware about her antisemitism, point out the tropes she is regurgitating that are thinly veiled ways of demeaning Jewish people. If she can't modify her behaviors, it is time to escalate this.

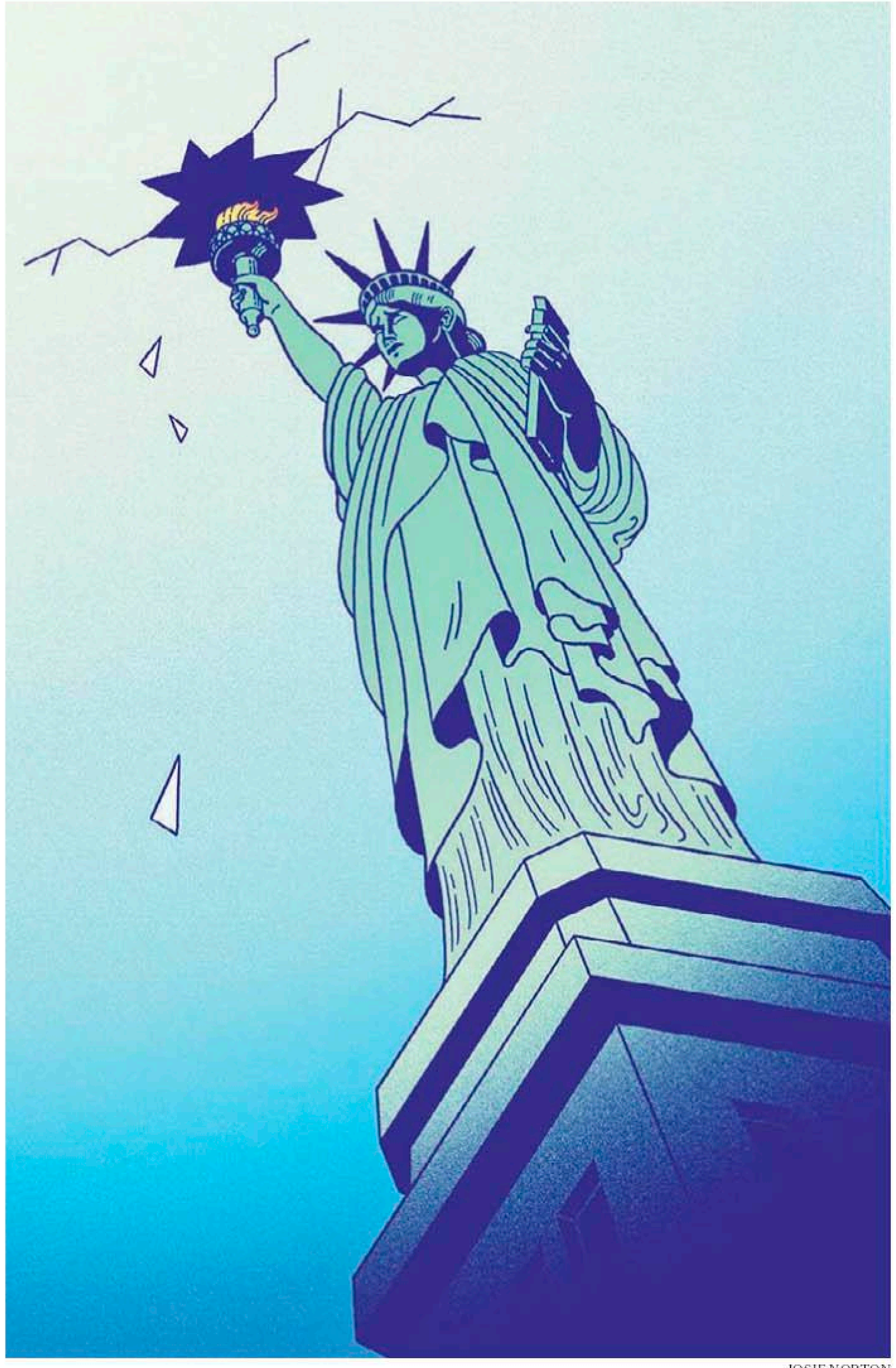
Roxane Gay is the author, most recently, of "Hunger" and is a contributing opinion writer.

Send questions about the office, money, careers and work-life balance to **workfriend@nytimes.com.** Include your name and location, even if you want them withheld. Letters may be edited.

STRATEGIES | JEFF SOMMER

Dispute Over Debt Ceiling Raises Risks for U.S. Bonds

The long-term effects of repeated flirtations with default are already a burden.



JOSIE NORTON

IT'S COME TO THIS.

Because of the debt ceiling crisis, a corner of the financial markets sees the U.S. government as a riskier borrower over the next month or so than Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Mexico, the Philippines and a host of other countries that have never been remotely considered linchpins for the modern global financial system.

Don't get me wrong. I hold Treasuries in my personal portfolio, and with one noteworthy exception, there is no sign so far that investors around the world are abandoning Treasuries — or the U.S. dollar or the U.S. stock market, for that matter. The United States is the core of world finance, and I expect that it will remain so.

Yet an important but often overlooked sector of financial markets — the $30 trillion market for credit default swaps — says that the debt ceiling standoff is truly serious. Short-term costs for insurance against a U.S. debt default are soaring right now.

What's more, there are indications that Washington's periodic flirtations with debt default are already having subtle negative long-term effects in global markets.

Janet L. Yellen, the Treasury secretary, has said that if a U.S. debt default happens, it will be "economic and financial catastrophe that will be of our own making." All catastrophes have costs, and the markets are struggling to assess them.

The Impasse

President Biden has begun discussing the debt ceiling with Speaker Kevin McCarthy and other congressional leaders without making much progress. As things stand, the Treasury says it will exhaust its trove of "extraordinary measures" and bump into the debt ceiling sometime in June. If Congress doesn't act by then, the United States could run out of money. It's conceivable that it will stop paying its bills, including millions of Social Security checks, and that it could default on its debt for the first time.

The stock market has been focused on other matters — persistent inflation, high interest rates, bank failures, the possibility of an imminent recession and the intentions of the Federal Reserve, which has been tightening financial conditions for more than a year. But if there is no resolution of the debt ceiling dispute until the last minute, a sharp decline in the stock market would not be surprising. That's happened before, even without an actual default. Eventually, the stock market recovered.

These crises put the U.S. at a competitive disadvantage.

Treasuries are normally viewed as the safest investments. But now, one-month Treasury bills due in June are being seen in the markets as potential trouble spots. Their yields have shot up over the past week or two, pushing them higher than the yields for two- and three-month bills. That's not typical.

In two or three months, the logic goes, the debt ceiling crisis will be behind us. In the meantime, one-month bills carry unusual risks. But some investors, like William H. Gross, who was known as the "bond king" when he headed Pimco, say a default will be averted, and at current prices, one-month Treasury bills are bargains.

They may well be, but that's only because they are deemed risky. Yet Treasuries are supposed to be risk-free assets. Virtually all financial assets on the planet are priced in relation to Treasuries, so you could argue that if the U.S. Treasury defaulted, there would be nowhere safe to go. Under these circumstances, it's difficult to assess the safety of anything in the financial world.

Default Insurance

Short-term Treasuries aren't the only asset class directly affected by the U.S. debt ceiling. Worries have also crystallized in the credit default swaps market. This is an arena for deep-pocketed institutional investors — hedge funds, banks, pension funds and the like — and not a place that I usually spend a lot of time thinking about. But credit default swaps provide insight about the gratuitous damage that the political dysfunction in Washington is inflicting on the credit of the United States.

Consider that credit default swaps are essentially insurance. For a defined period, investors can obtain protection against losses from a debt default by a corporation or a government. The United States remains the world's financial powerhouse. But until 2011, it also was in a select group of countries with the world's highest credit rating. That year, though, Standard & Poor's lowered its credit rating one notch because of the debt ceiling debacle.

Germany, on the other hand, still has a pristine, triple A credit rating. Although it doesn't have the clout of the United States, it's not surprising that Germany is deemed a better credit risk. But the extent to which that is now true is astonishing.

"Look at the credit default swaps market, and you get a sense of how much the United States is being hurt by these debt ceiling crises," said Richard Bernstein, a former chief investment strategist at the old Merrill Lynch who runs his own firm, Richard Bernstein Advisors.

I looked. While the probability of an actual debt default is still low, the cost of insurance for U.S. bonds over the next 12 months was about 50 times the price for Germany and about three to eight times that of countries like Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Mexico and the Philippines. That's according to FactSet data. Over longer periods — three, five and 10 years — the cost of insuring against a U.S. default drops.

As you would expect, over longer periods, the United States is deemed safer than countries with weaker credit ratings, but it's still about three times more expensive to insure U.S. debt than it is for Germany. And the yields on German sovereign bonds are generally lower than those for Treasuries, Mr. Bernstein pointed out. There are many reasons for this, but one important one is the safety of German debt. "Even when they are resolved, these debt crises are putting the United States at a long-term competitive disadvantage," he said.

A Longer View

In his latest annual letter to the shareholders of Berkshire Hathaway, Warren Buffett wrote of his continued optimism about the financial future of the United States.

"Despite our citizens' penchant — almost enthusiasm — for self-criticism and self-doubt, I have yet to see a time when it made sense to make a long-term bet against America," he said.

I share that optimism, but I confess I'm worried. The debt ceiling crisis is a symptom of political dysfunction. Bizarrely, the United States has the ability to pay its debts but may not do so because of an inability to achieve a political consensus.

So what is to be done?

Like Mr. Buffett, I believe most people should invest for the long haul, using low-cost index funds. But I'm not entirely confident that the United States will act in its own best interests. So, unlike Mr. Buffett, I believe investors should hold stocks and bonds from the entire world, not just the United States. I'm hedging my bets, long and short term.

For the next month or two, I'm bolstering my stash of relatively safe cash holdings in government money market funds and federally insured savings accounts. No option will be entirely safe if the United States defaults, but I don't see better alternatives.

That's the odd thing. In a crisis, even one caused by the United States, investors tend to seek a haven in Treasuries. That happened in 2011, and it's likely to keep happening, unless and until the United States finally loses its luster.

For now, be careful with your own money — and hope that your elected officials preserve the full faith and credit of the United States.

Follow Jeff Sommer on Twitter: @jeffsommer

The D.E.I. Movement Picks Up a Word: Belonging

A new crop of consultants is working to help employees be their 'whole selves' at work by ensuring no one feels left out.

By JENNIFER MILLER

Woodward is a 153-year-old aerospace company that required its male employees to wear bow ties into the 1990s.

So Paul Benson, the company's chief human resources officer, knew that creating a companywide diversity, equity and inclusion program would require a seismic shift. "Look at our org chart online, and we're a lily-white leadership team of old males," he said. But employees were eager for a more inclusive culture.

"People want to feel like they belong," Mr. Benson said. "They want to come to work and not feel like they have to check themselves at the door."

Last summer, Mr. Benson started searching for a diversity consultant who was up to the task. He hoped to find a relatable former executive "who had seen the light."

Instead, a Google search led him to a comedian and former media personality named Karith Foster, who is Black. She is the chief executive of Inversity Solutions, a consultancy that rethinks traditional diversity programming.

Ms. Foster said companies must address racism, sexism, homophobia and antisemitism in the workplace. But she believes that an overemphasis on identity groups and a tendency to reduce people to "victim or villain" can strip agency from and alienate everyone — including employees of color. She says her approach allows everyone "to make mistakes, say the wrong thing sometimes and be able to correct it."

Mr. Benson was convinced. He hired Ms. Foster to give the keynote address at Woodward's leadership summit last October.

Shortly after taking the stage, she asked attendees to close their eyes and raise their hands in response to a series of provocative questions: Had they ever locked the car when a Black man walked by? Had they thought, "Yes, Jewish people really are good with money"? Had they questioned the intelligence of someone with a thick Southern accent?

People raised their hands tentatively, even fearfully. By the time Ms. Foster finished, nearly every hand — including her own — was up.

"Congratulations; you're certified human beings," she said. "It's not about being right or wrong but understanding when bias comes into play."

Mr. Benson was relieved. "I was at a table with somebody who started the whole thing with his arms folded," he recalled. "His body language said this dude's not a believer. Halfway through, he's laughing and clapping."

Ms. Foster, he said, helped people "feel OK with themselves, like maybe you haven't been an activist or on this journey in your past, but let's see how we can move forward."

In other words, she helped them feel that they belonged in the conversation.

The question of belonging has become the latest focus in the evolving world of corporate diversity, equity and inclusion programming.

Interest in creating more inclusive workplaces exploded after George Floyd's murder in 2020. Many corporations turned their attention to addressing systemic racism and power imbalances — the things that had kept boardrooms white and employees of color feeling excluded from office life.

Now, nearly three years since that moment, some companies are amending their approach to D.E.I., even renaming their departments to include "belonging." It's the age of D.E.I.-B.

Some critics worry that it's about making white people comfortable rather than addressing systemic inequality, or that it simply allows companies to prioritize getting along over necessary change.

"Belonging is a way to help people who aren't marginalized feel like they're part of the conversation," said Stephanie Creary, assistant professor of management at the Wharton School who studies corporate strategies for diversity and inclusion.

She believes an abstract focus on belonging allows companies to avoid the tough conversations about power — and the resistance those conversations often generate. "The concern is that we are just creating new terms like belonging as a way to manage that resistance," Ms. Creary said.

Ms. Foster contends that as a practical matter, there will be no equity if the people in power — "the straight white male"— feel excluded from the conversation. The people traditional D.E.I. practitioners "most want to enroll are the people they're isolating and honestly ostracizing," she said.

The nonpartisan nonprofit Business for America recently interviewed more than two dozen executives at 18 companies and found this to be a common theme. "The way they've rolled out D.E.I. has exacerbated divides even while addressing valuable issues," said Sarah Bonk, B.F.A.'s founder and chief executive. "It has created some hostility, resentment."

It's why companies like Woodward are now hiring consultants who specialize in "belonging" and "bridge building." They are coming to the aid of executives who fear that national divisions are penetrating the workplace, threatening to drive a wedge between colleagues and making everyone feel anxious and defensive.

Ms. Creary agrees these are real problems. "I can see that corporations want to have a structured conversation around how allowing all of us to thrive will help us all collectively," she said. But she worries "belonging" gives cover to people who would rather maintain the status quo. "There's still a large percentage of people who have a zero sum mind-set," she said. "If I support you, I am going to lose."



NICK OXFORD FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES



NICK OXFORD FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Karith Foster, above, the chief executive of the consultancy Inversity Solutions. During her presentations, left, she asks people to be frank about their biases. Irshad Manji, below, is the founder of the consultancy Moral Courage College.

Where Values Come From

The belonging obsession is the result of a corporate standard that is now widespread: Bring your whole self to work. If you have the flexibility to work wherever you want, and the freedom to discuss the social and political issues that matter to you, then ideally, you'll feel that you belong at your company.

Bring your whole self to work emerged before the pandemic but became something of a mandate at its height, as companies tried to stanch a wave of resignations. They were also responding to concerns that many people felt excluded in the workplace. According to a 2022 report by the think tank Coqual, roughly half of Black and Asian professionals with a bachelor's or more advanced degree don't feel a sense of belonging at work.

Last year, the Society for Human Resource Management conducted its first survey on corporate belonging. Seventy-six percent of respondents said their organization prioritized belonging as part of its D.E.I. strategy, and 64 percent said they planned to invest more in belonging initiatives this year. Respondents said that identity-based communities, like employee resource groups, helped foster belonging, while mandatory diversity training did not.

Jonathan Haidt, a social psychologist and professor at the Stern School of Business at N.Y.U, wishes we weren't having this conversation about identity and belonging. "At a time of rising political polarization, many people's whole selves don't fit with the whole selves of their colleagues," said Mr. Haidt, a self-described centrist. "I've heard from so many managers. They can't stand it anymore — the constant conflict over people's identities."

In 2017, he and a colleague, Caroline Mehl, started the Constructive Dialogue Institute, whose main product is an educational platform called Perspectives. The tool uses online modules and workshops to help users explore where their values come from and why people from different backgrounds might have opposing values.

In 2019, C.D.I. began licensing Perspectives to corporations. Annual fees are $50 to $150 per employee license. Companies can also book a menu of live training options for $3,500 to $15,000 for a full day.



DAVE SANDERS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Allegis Global Solutions, a work force solutions company with 3,500 employees, was an early adopter.

Already, the platform has helped the company navigate some complex political situations. Last June, a 26-year-old human resources coordinator named Shakara Worrell was in a meeting when she learned that the Supreme Court had overturned Roe v. Wade. "The entire meeting stopped," Ms. Worrell said. "That's when I realized, I'm not the only one whose heart just dropped."

Ms. Worrell, who is mixed race, said she came to Allegis partly because the company prioritized belonging. She recalls reading news of police brutality at her previous job and feeling that she had to suppress her feelings.

"I just remember sitting in my cube and not being able to just voice my opinions," Ms. Worrell said. She remembered thinking, "I don't really belong."

Not so at Allegis. There, Ms. Worrell is a leader of Elevate, the company's employee resource group for women's empowerment. After the Supreme Court decision, she and fellow members decided to hold an event series to help employees digest the ruling. When they informed the human resources and D.E.I. teams, they were directed to Perspectives.

"No matter if they were for or against, we wanted our people to feel OK and be OK," Ms. Worrell said.

And were they? Allegis said roughly 200 people attended the first meeting, which was held virtually. Afterward, Ms. Worrell followed up with the one attendee who had spoken in favor of the court's decision.

"Even though I was that one person going against the grain," Ms. Worrell recalled the colleague saying, "I still felt like I should share."

A focus on group labels 'all but compels people to stereotype each other.'

IRSHAD MANJI
MORAL COURAGE COLLEGE

Being 'Fake Nice'

Irshad Manji, the founder of the consultancy Moral Courage College, says an "almost offensive focus on group labels" is a big problem with mainstream diversity, equity and inclusion efforts. "It all but compels people to stereotype each other," she said. "I happen to be Muslim and a faithful Muslim. But that does not mean I interpret Islam like every other Muslim out there."

Ms. Manji believes that people now use "belonging" as a "tacit acknowledgment that traditional D.E.I. hasn't worked well."

So what approach does work? In 2018, Autodesk, a software company with 13,700 employees, began planning a culture shake-up.

Some employees were afraid to offend one another, so they defaulted to being "fake nice" and "passive aggressive," said Autodesk's president and chief executive, Andrew Anagnost. Others felt unsupported and would not speak up in meetings.

Autodesk renamed its "Diversity and Inclusion" team the "Diversity and Belonging" team. Managers learned strategies for recognizing — and then counteracting — their own defensive thinking.

They were given poker chips to "play" each time they spoke to avoid dominating the discussion.

The company paid the leaders of employee resource groups bonuses to signal their value. And Mr. Anagnost put himself forward as the executive sponsor of the Autodesk Black Network.

But the company also tackled equity. It switched the location of a new office hub from Denver to Atlanta, knowing it would have a better shot at attracting Black engineering graduates there.

Autodesk regularly polls its employees about their experiences at work. After the culture shift took hold, Mr. Anagnost said that belonging scores increased for women and employees of color and decreased for white men.

"Then that normalized," he said. "Yeah, sure, OK, there's going to be some squeeze on opportunity in some areas as you try to increase representation in others. But the threat level goes down when you create a sense of 'we can all rise together.'"

A Voice Of Reason To Help You With Your 20s

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

on Mother's Day was for their children to read the book.)

Dr. Jay has emerged as the patron saint of striving youths, a prophetlike figure for a generation of young people buried under mixed messaging. They're told on television that they could be Kardashian-level rich if they tried, told on Instagram that they should be vacationing in Sicily, told on TikTok what a #Girlboss routine looks like and told in Beyoncé lyrics that all their peers are quitting their jobs.

This year's college graduates have extra reasons for uncertainty, given the churn in the labor market and the waves of layoffs across tech. In a survey of 1,432 job seekers from Handshake, a job search site for college students, the top words that members of the class of 2023 and other recent graduates used to describe their feelings about the economy were "anxious," "worried" and "nervous." They're following on the heels of millennials, who were known for spending their 20s job-hopping and landing in various positions for under three years. Dr. Jay's book combines sympathy for young people's confusion with a nudge.

"It definitely aims to create some urgency," said Dr. Jay, 53, her sobering message tempered by a warm Southern drawl. "When we believe that we have all the time in the world to do something, we don't do anything. That's just true, for everything from figuring out our careers to doing our laundry."

The sense of urgency it breeds means that Dr. Jay receives not just fan mail but also angst mail from her readers. "They'll email me and say, 'I read it at 22 and threw it across the room,'" Dr. Jay said. "It just depends."

On the one hand, the average Americans won't get married until around 30 and might switch employers every 30 months; on the other hand, they're likely to be saddled with nearly $40,000 in student debt. That can leave people with a simultaneous sense of wanderlust and panic.

Sarah Liddy, 25, and Audrey Flowers, 24, are two of Dr. Jay's superfans, mixed-up youths who recently decided to start a podcast to talk about being mixed-up youths. They called it Completely Clueless, with a profanity added in the middle for effect. Both Ms. Liddy and Ms. Flowers dreamed,



PHOTOGRAPHS BY HIROKO MASUIKE/THE NEW YORK TIMES

'You're asking about formulas. There actually is a very loose formula.'

MEG JAY
AUTHOR OF 'THE DEFINING DECADE'



Above, Meg Jay, a clinical psychologist and the author of "The Defining Decade," about the challenges facing people in their 20s. Left, Audrey Flowers (at left) and Sarah Liddy, who have a podcast about being mixed-up youths.

in high school, of becoming actors. (Ms. Liddy had her debut as the teapot in "Beauty and the Beast.") They studied musical theater and graduated from college during the pandemic, when auditioning opportunities were nearly nonexistent. Ms. Flowers was, until recently, working at a Lululemon store in New York, and Ms. Liddy is babysitting.

"The past couple weeks of my life have been an absolute fail, like an L," Ms. Liddy said in a recent episode of the podcast, called "20s Talk," using the slang term for "loss." "Major L's are being had in my life."

"Sometimes you've got to be in your flop era," Ms. Flowers replied. "Because a slay era doesn't mean anything if there is no flop era."

She added, encouragingly, "Your slay era is right around the corner, baby girl."

On a Wednesday this year, Ms. Liddy and Ms. Flowers sat down for lunch with Dr. Jay in Dimes Square, the Manhattan microneighborhood known for its cluster of dive bars and young people trying to figure out their lives over dive drinks. The two declared, giddily, how much Dr. Jay's advice had meant to them.

Ms. Flowers and Ms. Liddy's story is, like so many described in "The Defining Decade," both particular in its mishaps and broadly resonant. They were told by teachers while they were growing up that they had what it took to achieve theatrical stardom; Ms. Liddy recalled a sense that her whole hometown thought she would end up on Broadway. In college, they threw themselves into auditioning for shows. Then Covid arrived and tossed their professional plans askew. Both podcast hosts related, they said, to Dr. Jay's descriptions of being unmoored.

"The ocean!" Dr. Jay said.

"I've said that to my therapist multiple times," Ms. Flowers said.

"We've both had periods since graduating where we have felt really stuck," Ms. Liddy added. "I just wish I could be my old self again — that girl who was defined by working hard, 'She's going to be a star.'"

There were 50 million 20-somethings in the United States, about 15 percent of the population, when "The Defining Decade" came out. This cohort is experiencing a stage of life that Dr. Jay describes as a modern phenomenon. For much of history, people didn't have a full decade between leaving their parents' homes and starting their own families. They settled down early — moving into their own homes, finding jobs, having children.

But a confluence of economic and social forces has meant that people now have a longer period between childhood and full-fledged adulthood. One reason is birth control. As oral contraceptives became readily available in the 1960s and 1970s, women were able to delay the decision to start families, and their labor force participation soared over 50 percent. There's also student debt, which has prompted many recent graduates to move home with their parents. On top of all that, as religious affiliation has declined, more than half of Americans now derive their sense of self from work — meaning choosing a career isn't just finding a source of livelihood but also of identity.

With child rearing and home buying postponed, and the stakes of professional development heightened, a new phase of life has emerged: one of possibility and risk, exhilaration and crippling self-doubt. It's a complicated time. And Dr. Jay, perusing the self-help section at Barnes & Noble one day, realized that while there were ample books about how to raise a child, there weren't as many about how to keep raising yourself once you're technically an adult, or at least not enough books with the kind of measured advice she thought young people deserved.

The first edition of "The Defining Decade" came out a few years after the 2008 financial crisis, when young people were graduating with debt into a historically bad job market. The second edition came out during the pandemic, as they graduated into a workplace turned upside down.

When the pandemic hit, Dr. Jay was incidentally in her own period of flux. She'd decided to leave behind her own comfortable routines by signing up to teach "The Defining Decade" in a program called Semester at Sea, in which students spend months on a cruise ship traveling the world. Dr. Jay's book club meetings turned out to be among the most popular events on the ship. The room was always packed, the cookies ran out instantly and students watched as their classmates swapped their Colleen Hoover novels for "The Defining Decade."

"When she's talking to young people, she gives off the vibe that she's rooting for you but would call you out on things you're not doing," said Athena Bo, 23, a Semester at Sea participant. "A lot of people passed by the room and would say stuff like, 'Damn, that room is packed.' 'Damn, Meg Jay is superfamous.'"

To Ms. Bo, reading "The Defining Decade" sharpened the lessons she'd absorbed from her father growing up: "The example I always remember is when I went to McDonald's, he would say, 'If you want chicken nuggets, you're going to have to order it for yourself.' He would hold me up and be like, 'You've got to ask for the chicken nuggets.'"

Obviously, chicken nuggets were a low-stakes request. A decade later, Ms. Bo is learning, from Dr. Jay, to ask for more: a job, for example, and a relationship.

As Dr. Jay was updating the book in 2020, she was getting dozens more reader emails. Some people told her they felt as if the pandemic had stolen their defining decade, sapping them of the motivation and opportunities to chase what they wanted. Others said that because they were locked down at home, they finally had the time to read her book.

Twenty-somethings were experiencing the unease that Dr. Jay had spent the past decade describing, but it was intensified by Covid isolation. Jahleane Dolne, 25, one TikTok fan of "The Defining Decade," found herself applying for jobs from her parents' home, scrolling LinkedIn while seated next to her high school cheerleader uniform and prom dress. Jasmine Yook, 30, who has also posted on TikTok about the book, reread Dr. Jay's book at 29 and reflected on the gaps between where she wanted to be in her fashion career and where she had landed.

Dr. Jay responded to these readers with football coach pep. "This is your Great Depression," she said. "This is your recession. This is your generational adversity, and what did you do? How did you respond? To say, 'Well, I got scrappy and started a podcast,' or 'I read 50 books I said I was going to read,' that's a metaphor or an example of how you respond when life gets difficult."

And while much of her advice can sound intimidating, she isn't against offering hacks. "You're asking about formulas," Dr. Jay said, over lunch, after a discussion about the balance between seeking joy now and working hard to lay the groundwork for joy in the years to come. "There actually is a very loose formula."

Everyone at the table leaned forward.

"Happy successful people say that they spend about half their time thinking about the present, 'What's going to make me feel happy and successful now?,' and about half thinking about the future," Dr. Jay continued. "If somebody asked me about a formula, how do I balance between being happy in my 20s and being happy beyond, I would say probably about half and half."

On the other side of a French fry platter, Ms. Liddy and Ms. Flowers nodded sagely. The advice wasn't so much a panacea as a flash of hope. There was wisdom they could grasp onto. Somewhere, in the distance, there was land — or at the very least, their 30s.





LEFT AND ABOVE, SAM BUSH FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Florida Man of Formula 1

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
Williams Racing team as the first full-time American F1 driver since 2007.

For Formula 1 itself, finding a hometown hero for American fans is a giant leap.

Although it is hugely popular in Europe, F1 struggled for decades to break into the United States. That began to change in 2016, when the sport was purchased for $4.4 billion by the Colorado-based Liberty Media, owned by the cable magnate John Malone. Liberty ramped up its social media — F1 had barely kept a YouTube page — and backed a Netflix documentary series, "Drive to Survive." Once geared toward aging white men, F1 now has a younger and more diverse fan base. American TV viewership is up 220 percent from 2018, and the sport made $2.6 billion in revenue last year.

Still, a subset of F1 devotees complain about what they see as an overemphasis on entertainment and ginned-up drama. Under Liberty, they argue, pure racing is taking a back seat to cheap tricks to reel in casual viewers. And they often use a dirty word for it: Americanization.

"It is becoming more and more like Formula Hollywood," Bernie Ecclestone, the 92-year-old Briton who built F1 into a global business, griped last year. "F1 is being made more and more for the American market."

The backlash reached a peak at last week's Miami Grand Prix, which was added in 2022 as a showpiece for American fans. In a prizefight-style prerace ceremony, the rapper LL Cool J introduced the 20 drivers one by one amid swirling smoke and a squad of cheerleaders. Nearby, Will.i.am conducted a live orchestra playing the rap song he recently recorded with Lil Wayne as part of a "global music collaboration" with Formula 1. (The lyrics rhyme "Max Verstappen," the name of the sport's top driver, with "your champion.")

"Pandering to the American audience is killing @F1," wrote one fan on Twitter, echoing criticism that bubbled up across numerous F1 websites. Even the racers complained. "None of the drivers like it," groused Lando Norris, a Briton who drives for McLaren. Undeterred, Liberty announced that the bombastic prerace sequence would be featured at several more grands prix this year.

In the United States, F1 has long been associated with a certain European mystique. Its drivers race across the Ardennes forest (Circuit de Spa-Francorchamps in Belgium), the plains of Lombardy (Italy's Autodromo Nazionale di Monza) and, most famously, the louche glamour of the Monaco Grand Prix. The sport's stateside image could be summed up by the 2006 comedy "Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby," which featured Sacha Baron Cohen as a pretentious French F1 driver named Jean Girard, a snooty Eurotrash foil to Will Ferrell's macho NASCAR cowboy.

In 2023, F1 can feel a bit more Ricky Bobby than Jean Girard. In Miami, drivers circled a track built in the parking lot of the Dolphins football stadium, past an artificial Monaco-style "harbor": blue-painted asphalt topped with ersatz yachts. A new Las Vegas race in November will have cars zooming down the Strip past Caesars Palace. Meanwhile, traditional races in France and Germany are gone.

Katy Fairman, a journalist based in Brighton, England, who runs the F1 podcast "Small Torque," said she was surprised by the spectacle of a race in Texas. "There were girls with pompoms," she said. "I remember watching it and thinking, 'Oh, my gosh, this is so different from anything I'd seen F1 do in a long time.'"

Ms. Fairman said some Europeans found the American hullabaloo "tacky." But she added: "When it's something to do with America, I think Europeans are quite judgmental. I think it's just a bit of lighthearted fun. You guys like to have a party."

The arrival of Mr. Sargeant, who grew up about an hour's drive from the Miami racetrack, has spurred new interest, including a profile and photo shoot in GQ, and he's happy to play the part. "What's up America, let's bring that energy!" he shouted to the cameras after LL Cool J introduced him as "the local boy done good."

But as with F1, there are growing pains. In Miami, Mr. Sargeant finished last, his race ruined on the first lap when he damaged a front wing. After the checkered flag, he apologized to his team, his voice barely a whisper: "I'm so sorry. I can't believe it."

Weeks earlier, in an interview in Britain, Mr. Sargeant had demurred about the pressure of wearing the stars and stripes. "I try not to get too caught up in the talk of the role of 'first American,'" he said. "It's still very early for me, and I have a lot to learn still."

If Mr. Sargeant doesn't perform, there are dozens of drivers eager to take his spot. "At the moment," he said, "I just have to worry about staying here."

Getting 'Back in the Gym'

Before his tough Miami weekend, Mr. Sargeant was asked how he would celebrate a top 10 finish. "Honestly, it might sound lame, but probably just go back to my house and get in my bed for another night before I go back to London," he replied. "That's all I want to do."

For a wealthy, handsome, globe-trotting athlete, Mr. Sargeant can be soft-spoken and endearingly self-conscious. It's not unusual for someone who, like a tennis prodigy or an Olympian gymnast, has devoted his life since childhood to a sole pursuit.

Mr. Sargeant was 6 when he and his brother, Dalton, got a kart from their parents for Christmas.

"No one in the family was really even that much into racing," Logan said. "We just picked it up as a hobby, something to do on the weekend." He began winning junior races around the country — too easily. To reach the next level and pursue Formula 1, he'd have to leave behind his friends and beloved fishing trips for life on a different continent. "We just needed a higher level of competition, and at the end of the day, that was in Europe," he said.

Mr. Sargeant left Florida before his 13th birthday, bouncing among Italy, Switzerland and Britain as he raced on the European junior circuit; in 2015, he became the first American to win the Karting World Championship since 1978.

"As a kid, it was tough," he recalled. "Coming from Florida, being outdoors all the time on the water, great weather — it was literally vice versa." He settled in London, where he spends most days working out with a trainer. "I get away from a race weekend, and I just want to get back in the gym," he said. "I hate that feeling of leaving slack on the table."

It is very difficult to nab a seat in Formula 1. Today's drivers are physical dynamos trained to optimize their reflexes and performance levels down to how well they can withstand jet lag — critical in a sport that this year will include 23 grands prix spread over five continents. F1 teams employ hundreds of employees and spend hundreds of millions of dollars developing the world's most sophisticated racecars. But it's ultimately up to the driver to execute.

It also helps to have money. Lewis Hamilton, the seven-time world champion and F1's only Black driver, is an exception, having grown up on a London council estate. Many F1 competitors are the sons of multimillionaires or billionaires who can bankroll pricey travel and high-tech cars.

Mr. Sargeant falls into the scion category. He hails from a wealthy Florida asphalt shipping family. His uncle, Harry Sargeant III, is a former fighter pilot and onetime finance chair of Florida's Republican Party who has been sued by the brother-in-law of King Abdullah II of Jordan and whose name turned up, tangentially, in the 2020 impeachment of former President Donald J. Trump. (Harry was not accused of any wrongdoing.)

Logan's father, Daniel Sargeant, worked alongside Harry until the brothers had a falling out. In a 2013 lawsuit, Harry accused Daniel of misdirecting $6.5 million in corporate funds "for the purpose of advancing the international cart racing activities" of his sons, Logan and Dalton; that litigation was eventually settled.

In 2019, Daniel Sargeant pleaded guilty in federal court in New York to foreign bribery and money laundering charges related to his business dealings abroad. He is free on a $5 million bond and is awaiting sentencing. A Williams spokesman said that Logan Sargeant was not "in a position to comment" on any of the legal matters involving his family.

In F1, none of this particularly stands out. The mother of Mr. Sargeant's Williams teammate, Alexander Albon, was jailed in Britain for swindling millions of pounds in fraudulent sales of high-end cars. A Russian racer, Nikita Mazepin, was booted from the sport after his oligarch father, a close ally of President Vladimir V. Putin, was sanctioned after the 2022 invasion of Ukraine.

James Vowles, the Williams team principal, said in an interview that he hired Mr. Sargeant for his speed, not his U.S. passport. "I'm incredibly pleased that the sport is growing in America, but I think it would be anything but disingenuous to say that Logan's here for any other reason than I think he's got this pure talent," he said.

In his F1 debut in Bahrain in March, Mr. Sargeant finished 12th, outpacing this year's two other rookies. "He has this insatiable desire to be better, to want more," Mr. Vowles said. "He's a perfectionist, and I like that in him."



VALERY HACHE/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES



MARIO RENZI/FORMULA 1, VIA GETTY IMAGES

Top, from left: Formula 1 racing simulators; and the sport's sophisticated and expensive racecars. Center, the Monaco Grand Prix in 2021. Above, the rapper and actor LL Cool J, the M.C. at the Miami Grand Prix last week. Below, fans at the race in Miami Gardens, Fla., last year.

'It is becoming more and more like Formula Hollywood. F1 is being made more and more for the American market.'

BERNIE ECCLESTONE
THE BRITON WHO BUILT F1 INTO A GLOBAL BUSINESS

Commuting in a Compact Car

Britain, where Formula 1 originated in 1950, remains the sport's spiritual home, where most of its 10 teams are based. Williams was founded in Oxfordshire in the 1970s, but it's now an American subsidiary: a Manhattan private equity firm, Dorilton Capital, bought the company in 2020 for an estimated $200 million.

It was an important cash infusion for a team that had struggled to keep up with rivals. Manufacturers like Mercedes-Benz pour enormous resources into their F1 teams, which double as an elaborate global marketing campaign and an in-house innovation farm; tech developed for F1, like engines that recycle braking energy as an accelerant, can trickle into consumer vehicles.

The Williams campus is a humdrum brick pile that could be mistaken for an office park — a far cry from McLaren's space-age complex an hour's drive away. Many F1 teams provide their drivers with a high-end sports car for personal use; Mr. Sargeant commutes in a Vauxhall Astra, a compact.

Even the team's sponsors are relatively down-market; whereas the official watch of Ferrari is Richard Mille (starting price: $60,000), Williams has a deal with Bremont, whose timepieces retail for significantly less. (On a recent visit, a Williams press aide was quick to extract a spare Bremont watch from his pocket and ensure that Mr. Sargeant was wearing it whenever a photographer hovered.)

Given the huge costs, corporate partnerships are crucial to F1, part of the reason the American market, with its abundance of affluent consumers and wealthy brands, has proved so tempting. Gerald Donaldson, a journalist who has covered F1 for 45 years, recalled how cars were gradually taken over by corporate logos starting in the late 1960s.

"Marlboro paid all the Ferrari bills, including the drivers, for many years," he said in an interview. "There are eager companies who want the publicity." Mr. Sargeant's car features ads for Michelob Ultra beer and an American financial firm, Stephens. In Miami last weekend, beachgoers spotted an airborne banner reading "Go Logan!" alongside the image of a Duracell battery.

Last year, the Miami race was viewed on ABC by 2.6 million people, the biggest American audience for a live F1 telecast. Ratings for this year's race fell about 25 percent, perhaps a result of a duller-than-usual season dominated by one team, Red Bull.

Still, viewing data shows that F1 is expanding beyond affluent cities associated with elite sports: In 2022, its top five American TV markets included Asheville, N.C., and Tulsa, Okla. ESPN is clearly betting on more growth. When the sports network renewed its broadcast rights last year, it agreed to pay $90 million annually — up from the $5-million-a-year deal it signed in 2019.

Liam Parker, who was an adviser to Boris Johnson during Mr. Johnson's stint as foreign secretary and now leads communications at F1, said the sport was intent on rectifying past mistakes.

"We were too arrogant," he said. "We couldn't understand why the American fan base wasn't falling in love with us." But he pushed back on complaints that Liberty's efforts to raise the entertainment factor had stripped F1 of something essential.

"This whole argument of 'Americanization,' it's a very crude way to describe things," he said. "We shouldn't ignore things that can improve things for new and core fans. It's about giving people more choices in the modern era. It's modernization of access to everyone."

Mr. Hamilton, arguably the biggest celebrity of the current F1 lineup, has offered his own endorsement of Liberty's approach. "I mean, jeez, I grew up listening to LL Cool J," he told reporters in Miami. "I thought it was cool, wasn't an issue to me."

For all the debates over elitism, good taste and corporate rap collaborations, the core appeal of F1, when you get right down to it, may be something simpler — something Mr. Sargeant got at when asked in the interview if he had loved cars as a kid.

"I absolutely love driving, as you can imagine," he said. "But to be honest, I'm not one of those people who studies cars and, you know, likes to know every detail of every single car. It doesn't really interest me."

"The part that interests me," he concluded, "is driving them as fast as I can go."



DAVID J. GRIFFIN/ICON SPORTSWIRE, VIA GETTY IMAGES

RETIRING | MARK MILLER

In the Pursuit of Security, Try a Solo Gig

Working independently after leaving an employer can provide a financial boost.


KOREN SHADMI

'I had to find something I could do for the rest of my life that I would love doing.'

RUSS EANES ENTREPRENEUR

RUSS EANES WAS BURNING OUT at his job, and he had just hit 60 — but he wasn't ready to retire. A former minister in the Mennonite church, he had worked for a decade as an executive at a religious book publisher but found himself having to help shrink the organization.

"I was getting really good at downsizing, but I just decided I didn't want my life to be defined by firing people and selling buildings every few years," he said.

Dissatisfaction with work, and the early death of a brother-in-law, propelled him to seek a new career path in 2018. "I had to find something I could do for the rest of my life that I would love doing," he said.

Mr. Eanes was a hiker and cyclist, and he decided to create independent work around those interests and his spirituality. His first move was self-publishing a book in 2019 about his pilgrimage on the Camino de Santiago in Spain, followed by starting a business aimed at helping other writers publish their books. The pandemic interrupted his plans, even briefly forcing him back to full-time work — but now his publishing enterprise is gaining altitude again.

Adding a few more years of work to your retirement plan can be one of the best ways to improve retirement security, and some find that the best way to keep income flowing in one's later years is a sole-proprietor business of the kind Mr. Eanes started. Entrepreneurship provides a bridge of income to a later retirement — that income can help you delay your Social Security claim, increasing those benefits. It might also help you save more for retirement.

Entrepreneurship comes in many flavors, but think of solo businesses as a form of self-employment or gig work. Experts say they can often be started for as little as $5,000 to $10,000 to incorporate and create a website and brand, and to put other necessities in place, like bookkeeping software.

A key challenge is finding the right idea for your business. That might mean continuing in your current field, or pursuing a new interest. But these solo entrepreneur businesses also come with some financial challenges. A big one: financing your living expenses while you wait for revenue to develop. "The big risk is that your income will go down, at least temporarily and maybe permanently," says Jill Schlesinger, the author of "The Great Money Reset."

And as an entrepreneur, you're responsible for the full cost of benefits your employer subsidized, such as Social Security payroll tax contributions, health insurance and retirement savings.

Many Americans are surprised to find themselves having to leave full-time work sooner than they expected. Age discrimination, health problems, disability and job loss, or the need to care for a loved one, can intervene.

Forty-six percent of retirees reported this year that they left the work force earlier than planned, according to a survey by the Employee Benefit Research Institute. And there is a substantial gap between expectations about how long people will continue to work and reality. One in three workers told the survey's researchers of plans to retire at age 70 or older, or "not at all," while only 6 percent of retirees reported that they actually worked that long.

For people like this, entrepreneurship offers one route to staying in the game.

The Shock of No Paycheck

Not getting a regular paycheck might be the most intimidating change that comes with taking the entrepreneurial path — and it requires some careful planning. Most new businesses need time to generate revenue, so try to start with a cash cushion to pay living expenses while you wait, advises Roger Wohlner, a freelance financial writer and fee-only financial planner who started a business eight years ago that combines those pursuits.

Mr. Wohlner said people should have enough money to cover "anywhere from three months to a year's worth of expenses, just to make sure you can pay the mortgage." But the specific need can vary depending on the type of business you start.

Ms. Schlesinger, who reports on personal finance for CBS News, counsels taking stock of all the resources at your disposal now — salary, bonuses and commissions, savings, emergency funds and even retirement accounts. Then, get a handle on debts and other liabilities. "One big factor in your success is your ability to look at what you're spending now — and change it," she said.

Health Insurance and Taxes

Replacing employer-provided health insurance can be one of the biggest challenges solo entrepreneurs face.

If you are old enough to receive Medicare benefits, you're in luck. When you enroll, file paperwork confirming that you had insurance from an employer after the mandatory enrollment age, which is 65, to avoid stiff late-enrollment penalties.

Too young for Medicare? You have several options.

First, if you have a spouse who is employed and has health insurance, investigate that policy, since the benefits for the employee group might be stronger than what you could buy as an individual. If that's not an option, a plan on the Affordable Care Act insurance exchange will be your best bet. When you turn 65, you must switch from the exchange to Medicare.

Income that you receive as an independent contractor won't have income tax withheld. That means you'll need to estimate annual income, and then make quarterly estimated federal and (possibly) state income tax payments.

Along with paying income taxes, you'll be responsible for the self-employment tax, which covers the full cost of your contributions to Social Security and Medicare. As a self-employed worker, you can deduct half of these costs.

Saving for Retirement

Along with allowing you to delay Social Security, working longer offers the opportunity to save more for retirement. But any matching contribution to a 401(k) that you may have had from your employer is now gone. Beginning in 2027, you may qualify for a new direct federal government match under provisions of the Secure 2.0 Act, signed into law late last year. Workers may qualify for a 50 percent match up to $2,000 of a contribution to a retirement account, depending on income level.

Self-employed people often find it difficult to make an automatic, regular contribution of a percentage of their income to an account since they may not be paying themselves regularly.

A better approach now will be to set a more flexible goal for an annual savings amount. That's what Mr. Wohlner does with his business: "I set a target for the year, and I'll plan out the year, because there are certain months that my cash flow is better than others."

You can contribute to an Individual Retirement Account, but these come with annual contribution limits ($6,500 this year, as well as a $1,000 catch-up contribution for people over age 50) that you may want to exceed.

One option is a Simplified Employee Pension I.R.A., which can accept contributions only from you as the employer.

Another choice is a solo 401(k). These accounts are available only to self-employed people and a spouse who is employed by the business as well as any business partners. You can make two types of contributions — one as an employer, another as an employee. The employee contribution limit is the same as the 401(k) contribution limit for any traditionally employed worker — which is $22,500, or $30,000 if you're 50 or older in 2023.

The combined employee and employer contribution limits for 2023 are $66,000, or $73,500 for those 50 or older. Solo 401(k) accounts can be set up to receive either for tax-deferred or Roth contributions.

Self-employed workers who use high-deductible health insurance plans can contribute to Health Savings Accounts. There's no employer match, but H.S.A.s can be used to pay medical expenses, and they offer tax benefits. Contributions can be used to meet deductibles and other out-of-pocket costs but can also be saved and invested. And the tax benefits are compelling: H.S.A. contributions are tax deductible, investment growth and interest are tax deferred, and withdrawals spent on qualified medical expenses are tax free.

Managing the Unknown

Experts caution that a transition to entrepreneurship not only takes longer than you might expect, but often comes with twists and turns.

Mr. Eanes learned that lesson quickly when he went solo. His first book was selling well in late 2019 and early 2020 when the pandemic began. Sales cratered, and all of his in-person book presentations were canceled. "The bottom fell out of everything," he said. "I was asking myself, 'What do I do now?'"

He adjusted by hosting the book presentations online — and then accepted a full-time job teaching online courses for older adults.

Mr. Eanes was able to go back to his writing and consulting work last year, leaving his full-time job and cutting back to just a handful of online courses. His second book, about a spiritual trek in Italy, was published last month.

He is now on Medicare and plans to claim Social Security in September, when he reaches his full retirement age. He's also traveling and looking to start leading treks in Europe.

Entrepreneurship has provided the bridge he needed from his early 60s to Social Security and Medicare, but it's more than that. "It's a great way to stay active and engaged," he said, "and bring in the extra income I need."

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Analyst: Ciena Corporation has an opening for Senior Analyst, IT Network Engineering in New York, NY. Deploy, configure, and manage of all network infrastructure in our corporate offices. Requires 10% domestic travel. Rate of pay: $109,000.00 - $149,000.00 per year. CONTACT: Human Resources, Ciena Corporation; e-mail: HRConnect_NA@ciena.com. Must reference job A710.130.2.

Application Environments Engineer sought by CLS US Services Inc in New York, NY to assimilate the Software Development Life Cycle requirements, processes & procedures for Application Environments. Salary $160-170K. Telecommuting may be permitted. When not telecommuting, must report to CLS US Services Inc., 32 Old Slip, Floor 23, New York, NY 10005. Requires up to 20% domestic travel. Email resume to: hrss@cls-services.com. Must specify Ad Code SGAR.

Apps Dev Tech Sr Ld Anlyst for Citibank, N.A. (Jersey City, NJ) Dev strtegic roadmap to dr exec of key automation, transformatn & reg initiatves to improve Loans Ops & Tech func. Collab w/ Sr. & exec mgmt as a trustd advisor w/ approp plans of action. REQS: Req a Master's deg, or foregn equiv, in Finance, Bus Admin, or rel fild & 7 yrs of exp as a Financ Anlyst, Bus & Tech Anlyst, or rel position involvng bus & tech strategy & prog mgmt w/n the global financ ser ind. 7 yrs of exp must incl: Bus & Data Analysis, incl conducting current & future state anlysis of tech sys; Dev bus strategies to enhance contrls w/n credit risk & loan bus areas; Dev tech strateges to prioitize, deliver & exec large prgms & portfolios in consideration of similar tech initiatives; Implementing digitization, remediation, doc centralization, data quality, & cap & expnse optimization stratgies; Innovation & Change Mgmt implementation &; Wrkflow & Stakeholdr mgmt. Salary range: $215000 to $283200/yr; 40 hrs/wk. Apps submit resumes at https://jobs.citi.com/ & search Job Req ID #23645862 or to Citigroup Recruiting Dept., 3800 Citigroup Center Dr, Tampa, FL 33610. EO Employer.

App Dev Tec Ld Anlyst for Citibank, N.A. (NY, NY) Provide tech design supprt & review designs & coding implemented by peers. Provide architectural & design guidance to the devt team to build data processing sys on cloud platforms incl. Amazon Web Sers (AWS) & Native Private Cloud. REQS: Req a Bach's deg, or foreign equiv, in Comp Sci, Engr. (any) or reltd fild & 7 yrs of prog, post-bac exp as a Tech Specialist, Sols Architect, S/W Engr, Sys Anlyst, Com Prgm, or rel pos. 7 yrs of exp must include: J2EE; Redshift, Teradata, Big Query, Apache Hadoop, Spark, Presto & Impala; Kafka & Kinesis; MongoDB & Dynamo DB; Apache Solr & AWS ELK; Amazon Web Services; & Designing RBDMS archi. Salary range: $196000 to $240000/yr; 40 hrs/wk. Apps submit resumes at https://jobs.citi.com/ & search Job Req ID #23645313 or to Citigroup Recruiting Dept., 3800 Citigroup Center Dr, Tampa, FL 33610. EO Employer.

Help Wanted 2600

Architect: Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center seeks Enterprise Architect (Integration) in New York, NY to lead the devt & implementation of enterprise & portfolio architecture strategies across multiple mission critical domains & platforms. EEO/VETS/ADA. Salary: $190,500 - $323,700/year. Telecommuting permitted, must work in office as needed. Please send resume to Adam Cohen, 633 Third Avenue, 5th Floor, New York, NY 10017 & reference requisition 0011

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Living Cities, Inc., Assistant Director - New York, NY.
Responsible for analyzing and synthesizing information generated by the Start Up, Stay Up, Scale Up, Inclusive Economic Growth, and Catalyst Fund projects; leveraging lessons learned to develop content for publication to stakeholders; researching and staying apprised of innovations, practices and changes in the fields of entrepreneurship; designing systems and processes to share information and track findings; working with others to identify themes and connect dots across projects; and providing project management of the Start Up, Stay Up, Scale Up initiative and programmatic support of the Inclusive Economic Growth and Equipt to Innovate teams. Salary range: $112,000 and $140,000/yr. Send resume to Alexis Ching, Living Cities, Inc., 470 7th Ave, 10th floor, NY, NY 10018 or
aching@livingcities.org

Associate, Institutional Mrkts - Global Atlantic Financial Company (NY, NY): Work as part of Institutional Business team to help model blocks of insurance liabilities (incl fixed annuities & life insurance) & perform quantitative & qualitative analysis used to eval potential reinsurance or acquisition opp'tys. Perform liability modeling for reinsurance deal pricing & fin'l analysis. REQTS: Bachelor's (U.S. or foreign equiv) in Actuarial Sci, Data Sci, or rel quantitative field, + 3 yrs exp in quantitative modeling w/i fin'c & insurance industry. Achieved ASA accreditation. Prior exp must incl 3 yrs in each of following: Modeling exp in quantitative setting, such as insurance liabilities; dvlpg in actuarial softw such as ALFA, AXIS, or Prophet, inclusive of reconciling projections to different sources; performing actuarial analysis incl single cell analysis & sensitivity tests on projections to assess variations in future performance; applying knowl of actuarial concepts & insurance industry consistent w/ ASA designation (e.g. concepts such as ALM, hi level understanding of hedging, etc.); hands-on exp w/ front-to-back model dvlpmt of insurance product; manipulating/cleaning data in 1 (or more of) R/SAS/SQL/Python, along w/ exp w/ stat analysis in 1 of these pkgs; automating & streamlining existing processes; dvlpg new analytical tools to enhance understanding of trends & other useful relationships; & communicating & presenting results to mgmt & other bus. units. The expected annual base sal for this NY, NY, US-based position is $118,000 to $186,000. Please email resumes to ResumesGAFC@gmail.com.
Please specifically incl ref code "C# 6493110" in subject line of email when applying. EEO/AAE/V/D.

ASSOCIATE
Foley Hoag LLP seeks Bankruptcy/E-Discovery Associate in New York, NY. Perform key legal role including: draft pleadings; engage in motion practice; participate in Ch 7, 11 & 15 cases in bankruptcy court; participate in assignments for benefit of creditors, receiverships and litigating creditor rights in state/federal court; counsel clients on bankruptcy/restructuring; draft truesale and non-consolidation opinions; draft/negotiate Section 363 asset purchase agreements; draft/defend objections to proofs of claims; document management using Pacer and ECF; prepare/conduct depositions; create/manage protocols on collection/storage/production of electronic discovery; execute projects based on E-Discovery protocols. Reqs: J.D. or equiv; 4 yrs exp in: bankruptcy, restructuring and E- Discovery matters, drafting bankruptcy pleadings, engaging in bankruptcy motion practice, and participating in Ch 7/11/15 cases in bankruptcy court (exp can be gained concurrently); knowledge of the intersection of intellectual property and bankruptcy rights, drafting/defending objections to proofs of claims, preparing for/conducting depositions, creating/managing E-Discovery protocols, Pacer, and ECF; membership in New York Bar. Salary $235,000-$285,000. By resume to
attorneyapplications@foleyhoag.com

Associate Attorney (Schlam Stone & Dolan LLP) (New York, NY): Reprsnt clients at court & arbtrtn hearings, cnfrncs, mediatn, negotiatns & proceedgs; Prep witnss, exhbts & mtrls for depos & trials; Cndct invstgtns, interview wtnss & review evdnc; Cndct case-rltd rsrch into laws, regs & precedent, maintn attntn to cases to infrm & dvlp stratgy; Cndct dscvry & doc review, e-dscvry & mgmt of teams; Draft & edit pleadgs, briefs, memos of law, affdvts, motion papers, dscvry docs & subpoenas, memos for clients; Take & defend depos; Argue apps & motions in court, trbnls & forums; Cndct cnfrncs & crrspndnc w/ clients, oppsg counsel, exprts & participnts of ltgtn prcss; Act as resrc to sr attrnys during ltgtn, prvd rsrch & assistnc. Reqd exp: Cmmrcl ltgtn (cntrctl disputes, busness torts & dvrc); White-collar criminal defense (wire & mail fraud); Gov invstgtns (SEC); Jury trial; Cmmrcl arbtrtn (AAA & JAMS); Prcdrl exp in state & fed crts in NY; & Extnsv exp cndctg cmplx e-dscvry. Reqs: JD or frgn equiv & 18 mths of exp as Lawyer, Intern, or rltd occup. Admssn to NY State Bar. WFH avlbl. Salary: $97,000 - $205,000.00. Send C.V. to vrosenfeld@schlamstone.com.

Associate w/ Kirkland & Ellis LLP (NY, NY). Work within the Executive Compensation practice group to represent & advise public & private company clients on compensation issues in the context of M&A and w/r/t comp arrangements. Requires JD or LLM, or foreign equivalent. Reqs admission to NY bar. Reqs 2 yrs of exp. as an Associate w/ an int'l law firm advising corporate clients on executive comp matters. Exp must incl: Advising clients on comp issues in the context of M&A & w/r/t comp arrangements; Negotiating & drafting transaction docs, employment & severance arrangements, equity agreements, & comp plans & agreements; Coordinating w/ int'l local counsel w/r/t comp, executive comp diligence & issues in the context of M&A; Researching & drafting client memos to advise corporate clients regarding disclosure questions & preparing public filings; & Conducting & supervising due diligence for corporate transactions & executive comp matters. Hiring salary: $295,000 / year. Resumes to KEResumes@kirkland.com,
use job ref. code # YC042023.

UBS Business Solutions US LLC seeks Associate Director, IT Support Analyst in New York, NY. Interact very closely with front office Equity Trading and Sales teams and associated Operations teams covering the region. Have a high level of day to day interaction with the business stakeholders at all levels. Full - time. Salary: $138,590 - $150,000/year. Qualified Applicants apply through
SH-ProfRecruitingcc@ubs.com. Please reference 000143. NO CALLS PLEASE. EOE/M/F/D/V

ASSOCIATE
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP. Associate. New York, NY. Advise public & private companies w/ general corporate & securities matters. Must be admitted to the State Bar of NY, in good standing. May telecommute. Salary range: $183,435 to $250,000 per year. Email CV to
rbekono@orrick.com & ref #6190.54.5.

Associate Provost: Lebanese American Uni. seeks Associate Provost for IEP & Exec. Director in New York, NY to direct academic programs. Send CV to recruitmentNYC@lau.edu.

Associate Attorney (New York, NY) Represent clients in acquisitions, asset sales, auc, divestitures, joint vntr, & corp restructurings. Lead, w/ support from partners, drafting & negot of stock & asset purch agrmt, joint vntr agrmt, shareholder agrmt, transition svcs agrmt, standstill & regist right agrmt, binding & non-binding offers, exclsvty agrmt, & conf agrmt. Reqs: JD & 5 yrs legal exp. w/ x-border M&A in LatAm. Legal exp. in NRG & infrastr sectors. Exp. w/ broad range of clients incl. invest bnks, financ invstrs incl. priv equity funds, corps, strategic invstrs and sovrgn clients. Knwlg of civil law sys incl. princip & framework & ability to assess impact on financ transctns in LatAm reg. NYS Bar admission.
$215,000.00 - $415,000.00/yr. Res: Clifford Chance US LLP,
kate.henderson@cliffordchance.com.

Attorney: Eversheds Sutherland (US) LLP: Associate - New York, NY: work w/partners acting as second chair in case mngmt of team on large complex, multi-jurisdiction intl disputes for clients of firm's highly specialized Public Intl Law & Intl Arbitration practice. Req's J.D. or frgn equiv & admission to a state bar within US +4 years of exp practicing Intl Dispute Resolution. Proficiency in one or more of the following req'd: French, Spanish, Russian, Armenian, &/or German. Telework 2-3 days/wk. Up to 50% domestic & intl travel req'd. Salary Range: $227,032 - $410,000/yr. To apply: email stephaniekaczynski@eversheds-sutherland.us & ref ES102

Help Wanted 2600

Attorney: Mayer Brown LLP seeks an Associate Attorney to for the Finance practice to advise clients on matters related to corporate and project finance, mergers, acquisitions, capital market transactions and securitizations. Counsel lenders, borrowers, issuers, and underwriters on public and private financing transactions, including acquisition financing, project finance and securitizations. Draft legal documents related to critical client matters based upon analyses of applicable corporate and related laws. Document and negotiate legal opinions, contracts, letters, and other agreements related to financial transactions. Position requires a Bachelor's degree in Law, Legal Studies, or a directly related field, followed by 5 years of progressively responsible experience with advising multinational corporations, banks, or institutions in a law firm or in-house setting. Experience must include a minimum of: 5 years of experience with preparing and presenting oral and written legal positions and memoranda; 5 years of experience conducting client interviews and directly providing legal consultation; 2 years of experience with representing lending institutions and corporate borrowers in complex finance transactions; 2 years of experience with coordinating and managing due diligence efforts in connection with capital markets and M&A transactions; 2 years of experience with advising institutional lenders on national and international asset-based, cash flow and acquisition finance; and 2 years of experience with negotiating and processing legal documents, including Loan Agreements, Guarantee Facilities, Note Purchase Agreements, and Indentures. Must be admitted to practice law in the state of New York or another state bar in good standing. Job location: New York, NY. Rate of Pay: $215,000 to $415,000 per year. To apply, candidate should please send resume and cover letter identifying the opportunity by title to E. Brainard, Mayer Brown LLP, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY, USA 10020 or e-mail htan@mayerbrown.com and include the keyword "BF0523" on the subject line.

ATTORNEY
Buchanan Ingersoll seeks Sr. Associate Attorneys - Healthcare (mltpl openings) in NYC to provide legal anlss w/ spec foc on healthcare reg. opinions, lit & trans. deals. Reqs: J.D. fr accredited law school & 4 yrs exp as Assoc.; NY State bar admission; exp w/ guardianship matters & Medicaid appeals in rel to discharge/collections; exp w/ lit in rel to discharge/collections; exp. w/ legal rsrch & memos rel to healthcare reg. questions; & exp drafting contracts, agreements, doc requests & other lgl docs within the healthcare practice area. Must also be willing to work 3 days/week in office on hybrid work sched. Pay: $190,000 - $200,000/yr.
Apply online at
https://www.bipc.com/
lateral-attorneys

Attorney Director: Rodriguez Mejia Law Firm PLLC seeks Attorney Director in Central Islip, NY. Corporate practice (companies in El Salvador and New York); real estate practice (properties in El Salvador and New York); litigation practice (civil and family law and litigation in New York and El Salvador); and U.S. immigration law practice. Promote firm services and growth strategy. Resume to Jose Luis Rodriguez Sanchez, Rodriguez Mejia Law Firm PLLC, Legal Row Building 129 Carleton Ave, Central Islip, NY 11722.

AUDIT
Manager, External Audit Generalist (Mult Pos), PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, New York, NY. Asst clnts to slv complx bus issues from strtgy to exctn. Req. Bach's deg or foreign equiv in Acct, Fin, Bus Admin, or rel + 4 yrs rel wrk exp. The emplyr will accpt a 3-yr deg or a 4-yr deg. Cert(s) req: CPA lic or foreign equiv, or Chartered Accountant designation or foreign equiv. 80% telecommtng prmttd. Mst be able to commute to desgntd local office. Trvl up to 60% of the time is req. Salary $131,206 - $131,206/yr. Apply by email at
US_PwC_Career_Recruitment@
pwc.com
referencing Job Code NY3735.

Automotive Technician (multiple openings) needed for Farmingdale, NY autobody shop to diagnose, adjust, repair, service & program BMW automobiles. Req: 2 yrs exp in job off or rel. Must have exp in the service & repair of BMWs & must have experience w/ electronic & computer system diagnosis, testing & repair. Salary: $65,000/yr. Resumes: Office Manager, The Bimmer Shop LLC, 60 Verdi St, Farmingdale, NY 11735. Ref #101

Bank of China seeks an Associate (Legal & Compliance Department) in New York, NY, to analyze financial/transactional information, identify and report suspicious activity and mitigate risks, among other job duties. Telecommuting may be permitted. Salary: $98,783.94. Candidates must mail resume, reference Job Code 20383.377.4, to: ATTN: Bowen Di, Associate, HR, Bank of China, 1045 Avenue of the Americas, 9th Floor, New York, NY 10018. Equal Opportunity Employer: M/F/D/V.

Banker for Citigroup Global Markets Inc. (New York, NY) Independently manage & provide financial advisory f/ largest glbl private equity clts. Reqs MS dgr or frgn equiv in Biz Admin, Finance, Acctng, Econ or related & 3 yrs of exp as IB VP, IB Asso, IB Analyst or related w/ glbl bank. Alt, will accept Bach dgr or frgn equiv in specfd flds & 5 yrs of specfd prgrssv post-bach exp. 3 yrs of exp must incl: Corp Finance; Acctng incl 10-Ks, 10-Qs, & 424b filings; M&A to run sellside & buyside process; Accretion/Dilution analys; Valuation analys; Leveraged fin knwldg & exp w/ structured acquisition fin; Prvt Equity; FactSet, Bloomberg & CapitalIQ; Excel mdlng. 20% dom travel reqd. Salary range: $275K to $275K /yr; 40 hrs/wk. Applicants submit resumes at https://jobs.citi.com/ and search Job Req ID #23645335 or to Citigroup Recruiting Dept., 3800 Citigroup Center Drive, Tampa, FL 33610. EO Employer.

Banker - Greenwich, CT. Advise ultra-high net worth individuals, hedge fund principals, asset managers & financial executives on investing, banking, lending & estate planning. Sal. range: $225,-000 - $225,000 per year. For reqs & to apply, visit https://careers.jpmorgan.com & apply to job #:210407545. EOE, AAE, M/F/D/V. JPMorgan Chase & Co. All rights reserved.
www.jpmorganchase.com.

Banking: DB USA Core Corporation seeks Risk Analyst in NY, NY to identify credit deterioration on assigned portfolio, determining impairment of exposures & recommending Loan Loss Provisions. Req's: Bachelor's in Bus. Admin, Fin., or rel. field or equiv & 5 yrs of progressively responsible exp evaluating credit & fin'l risks across diverse industries & geographies, incl country risk, political risk, commodity prices dvlpmt, macroeconomic outlook & FX movements for Latin America. Must incl at least 5 yrs of progressively responsible exp analyzing fin'l ratios & performing peer & historical comparisons; interpreting fin'l indexes & ratios & assessing clients' historical creditworthiness; utilizing fin'l analysis methodologies incl cash flow projections & performing company valuation (DCF, Multiples) & fin'l projections; implementing regulatory req'mts (USA, EU & LatAm) regarding banking products & their classification; performing mrkt analysis of stock prices, CDS movements, & liquidity analysis of securities; implementing traditional banking products incl Term Loans, Revolving Credit Facilities, Letters of Credit, Guarantees, Import/Export fin. structures, & Fin'l Supply Chain suite of products; working w/ derivative products & negotiating ISDA and GMRA; assessing risk characteristics of vanilla & complex derivative products incl FX Forwards, NDF, Interest Rate Swaps, Cross-Currency Swaps, Repos, & basic Options; assessing risk on M&A transaction financings. Salary: $156,333 - $200,-000/yr. Apply to https://careers.db.com/professionals/search-roles/#/professional & search by keyword AJ6424814.

Block, Inc. in New York, New York seeks to fill the position of Software Engineer, Terminal API to work with Android as well as Backend engineers to develop new features and improve on existing experiences within the Payments Platform. Telecommuting permitted. Rate of pay: $152,300 - $202,800 per year. To apply or for benefit inquiries, send resumes to
online-job-apply@squareup.com.
Must reference job code 21704.235.3.

Help Wanted 2600

Broker: TP ICAP Americas Holdings, Inc. seeks a Broker to maintain and develop existing client relationships and make contact with prospective new clients in over-the-counter and exchange traded markets with a focus on Forwards and Short Term Interest Rate Swaps. Solicit feedback from industry participants through trade calls, surveys, industry events, trade shows, and conferences. Analyze trading desks' business strategy and identify new business opportunities related to trends, futures markets, products, and clients. Assess client needs and financial conditions to identify internal cross-selling opportunities. Analyze trade regulations within the evolving regulatory landscape; and support a risk and compliance aware culture by complying with group policies. Position requires 4 years of international experience evaluating Forward markets volatility to enhance current markets and maintain market share within over-the-counter and exchange traded markets. Experience must include a minimum of: 3 years of experience with G10 Forwards and Short Term Interest Rate Swaps; 3 years of experience using Reuters and Bloomberg to communicate with and determine target markets; 3 years of experience utilizing Datatec to provide pricing and ensure the indicative rates are reflective of current pricing; 3 years of experience with TMS Software to input trades and ensure confirmations are sent, matched and accepted; 3 years of experience utilizing Axiom software to update screens used for pricing; and 3 years of experience facilitating trading on Forex (FX) markets, including utilizing knowledge of FX forward swaps, FX cross currency basis swaps, and OIS markets. Job location: New York, NY. Rate of Pay: $155,000 - $185,000 per year. To apply, please visit https://tp.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/TP-ICAP and search by job title or enter job ID number R1212. Alternatively, please send your resume, cover letter and copy of ad to: TP ICAP, Attn: C. Perillo, 101 Hudson Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302.

Broker: TP ICAP Americas Holdings, Inc. seeks an Equity Derivatives Broker to analyze market data and interpret impacts on brokered product prices. Interpret market and product trends to determine strategy and disseminate market color and prices for products brokered. Support and develop existing and prospective client relationships, and evaluate market volatility to ensure client receive the best rates available. Assess client needs and financial conditions to identify internal cross selling opportunities, and produce pricing for clients on long-term energy to best hedge their risk. Identify new business opportunities relating to new trends, future markets, and products. Position requires a Bachelor's degree in Economics, Finance, Statistics, Mathematics, or a related field, and 2 years of experience with trading systems and reporting in the Financial Services Industry. Experience must include a minimum of: 2 years of experience with equity, equity derivative and delta 1 sales; 2 years of experience with brokering OTC equity products; 2 years of experience with Bloomberg Terminal; 1 year of experience with dealing with Market makers, and 1 year of experience with Market-Wire Confirm systems, Symphony pricing and communications platform, Traffix OMS, and Visual Basic programming. Job location: New York, NY. Rate of Pay: $125,000-$135,000 per year. To apply, please visit https://tp.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/TP-ICAP and search by job title or enter job ID number R1210. Alternatively, please send your resume, cover letter and copy of ad to: TP ICAP, Attn: C. Perillo, 101 Hudson Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302.

BUSINESS
Institutional Capital Network, Inc.
d/b/a iCapital
AVP, iCapital Solutions
New York, NY

Responsibilities: Work across multiple product managers & product areas to manage large scale, complex projects impacting multiple facets of iCapital Solutions Business. Partner with product managers to document user stories, tasks, & acceptance criteria in JIRA, ensuring requirements are communicated in clear & detailed manner & priorities are clearly communicated.

Salary: 140,000 - $145,000/year

Requirements: Bachelor's degree in business administration, project management or related field & 5 yrs exp in job offered or 5 yrs exp managing/consulting on software development. Exp must include 5 yrs each of following: documenting technical & functional requirements of enterprise software applications; managing enterprise software development across engineering & quality assurance teams; managing integrations development of software applications to third party vendors on RESTful architecture; establishing project management & software development governance frameworks; & writing software functional and integration test cases. Experience may be gained concurrently. Email resume & cover letter:
talentacquisition@icapitalnetwork.com or Institutional Capital Network, Inc., c/o Talent Acquisition, 60 East 42nd Street, FL 26, NY, NY 10165

BUSINESS
Senior Manager, Business Development - Client Strategy (Mult Pos), PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, New York, NY. Mng IFS engagements to ensure work is performed in accordance with PwC policies, procedures & professional standards. Req Bach's deg or foreign equiv in Fin, Acct, Bus Admin or rel + 6 yrs rel wrk exp, of wch 5 yrs mst be post-bach's progressive rel work exp. In lieu of a Bach's deg, employer will accept 2 addn'l yrs of work rel exp. 80% telecommtng permitted. Mst be able to commute to the designated local office. Domestic &/or intl travel up to 60% is req. Salary: $124,500 - $124,500/yr. Apply by email at
US_PwC_Career_Recruitment@
pwc.com
referencing Job Code NY3732.

BUSINESS
Cisco Systems, Inc. is accepting resumes for multiple positions in New York, NY: Account Manager (Ref#: NY157B): Lead strategic accounts and focus on client relationship management and customer satisfaction within the account. Telecommuting permitted. Salary Range: $120,000-372,900/year. Sales Specialist (Ref#: NY142B): Lead the product sales process to deliver new business growth and develop strategic relationships with key accounts. Telecommuting permitted. Salary Range: $156,062-289,700/year. Please email resumes including position's reference number in subject line to Cisco Systems, Inc. at amsjobs@cisco.com. No phone calls please. Must be legally authorized to work in the U.S. without sponsorship. EOE. www.cisco.com

Business Architecture Manager (New York, NY): Provide aid to ensure Reclaim Services adheres to QC & customer service standards. Assist w/ market & process changes to ensure accurate implementation via continued dev. & maintenance of BRMS & DSA database. Aid in the approval & creation of system initiatives that mitigate risk, increase efficiency, & allow Reclaim Services to adapt to fluctuating market reqs. Salary: $79,500/yr. Reqs: Bachelor's degree in Finance/foreign equiv. + 6 mths exp in position/Derivatives Specialist. Mail CV to Globetax Services, Inc, One New York Plaza, 34th Fl., NY, NY 10004. Attn: R. Jean- Louis, Sr. Associate, HR.

CBS Interactive, Inc. d/b/a Paramount seeks a Sr DevOps Engr. in NY, NY to lead the design & implementation of the company's cloud infrastructure. $160,000.00 - $182,000.00 per year. Telecommuting permitted. Apply at www.jobpostingtoday.com,
Ref. #40211.

Chemist (Product Testing) (Congers, NY.) Perform in-process & Finished product testing for solid & liquid dosage form using FTIR, Liquid Chromatography, UV-Vis/Mass Spectroscopy. Scale up product formulations working with R&D & validate analytical test methods. Determine product shelf life by performing stability testing analysis. Perform statistical analysis of RM & product assay, create & implement procedures (SOPs). Perform audit to qualify vendor. Assist in OOS investigations & CAPA review using knowledge of FDA quality System Regulations, 21 CFR Part 111 and ISO 17025 lab certifications. Perform inspection duties to ensure integrity of manufactured products. Direct quality functions to protect safety/efficacy of products. Maintain calibration & standardization requirements. Mail resume- ADH Health Products Inc., 215 North Route 303, Congers, NY - 10920. Ref: ADH1.

Help Wanted 2600

Chief of Staff
Snappy App Inc. is seeking Chief of Staff to work out of its New York office. Conduct organizational studies and evaluations, design systems and procedures, conduct work simplification and measurement studies, prepare documentation to assist company management in operating more efficiently and effectively; drive business initiatives; streamline cross-functional communication and objectives; bring strong culture and happiness to team; optimize performance and KPIs, building roadmap for the product, and working on headcount/hiring plans; streamline workflows, assist with meetings, plan management off-sites; create board meeting and investor decks; lead strategy initiatives including M&A, new business units/product lines, Go-To-Market strategy, international expansion. Position requires master's degree in business administration or related field and five years of management consulting experience; experience must include (1) consulting to startup companies, (2) management of large and complex projects across different functions and geographies, (3) corporate strategy and finance, (4) international expansion. May telecommute from any location in U.S. Salary range $225,000-$250,000. Send resume to Amy Stoldt, Snappy App Inc., 33 Irving Pl, Ste 5021, New York, NY, 10003, amy@snappy.com; reference code CS1 in subject line of email.

Chameleon Communications International, Inc. (NY, NY) seeks SVP, Strategy & Innovation to create & maintn yrly innvatn plan & lead Chameleon US innvatn team meetngs. Reqs MS in Neuroscncе, Biology or rltd bioscnces fld +4yrs exp in offrd pos or medcl dirctr role for medcl commnctns agncy or PhD in Neuroscncе, Biology or rltd bioscnces fld +1yr exp in offrd pos or medcl dirctr role for medcl commnctns agncy. All reqd exp mustve incld leadng stratgy, content dvpmt & dlvry of tactcs acrss divrse therapeutc areas for mult accnts, incl exprnce suppting clnts from both Medcl Affairs depts & Mrktng depts, using exprtse in medcl commnctns stratgy, tactics, publcatn planng, & trends in indstry; exprnce in sr scientfc dirctr role in at least 3 of follwng therapeutic catgries: hematology/oncology, neurology, rare disease, rheumatology, infctious disease-s/vaccnes, immunolgy, cardiovasculr disease, or intrnl medcne; leadng biz pitchs w/ crss-functnl teams that result in at least $1M in new biz; dvlpng new biz by proactvly idntfyng & targtng approp new biz opprtunties, & dvlpng & sellng innovatve tactcs to exstng pharma indstry clnts. Salary: $180,000/yr. E-mail res to abigail.greenbaum@
omnicomhealthgroup.com.

Communications: Yabu Pushelberg (New York NY) seeks Communications Manager for high-end interior design firm in hospitality sector. Salary: greater of $105K & US DOL prevailing wage. Reqs.: Bach Degree in Art, Communications or related + 2 yr rel exp in AEC/Design context. Send CV, writing sample + 2 refs to
careers@yabupushelberg.com
Attn.: Project Mississauga.

COMMUNICATIONS
Block, Inc. in New York, New York seeks to fill the position of Crypto Communications Lead to implement an external communications strategy that successfully drives company messaging around cryptocurrency. Telecommuting permitted. Rate of pay: $170,100 - $223,100 per year. To apply or for benefit inquiries, send resumes to
online-job-apply@squareup.com
Must reference job 21704.11.3.

Computer/IT: AVP (Software Development) for BNP Paribas RCC Inc. in Jersey City, NJ to be responsible for design & dev. Of apps leveraging complex Java & JEE tech. & middleware sys. Req.: MS degree or foreign equiv. in CS, Electronic Engg., Electrical Engg. Or related field plus 2 yrs' exp planning & executing Java/JEE sw engg projects or, alternatively, a BS degree or foreign equiv. in CS, Electronic Engg., Electrical Engg. Or related field & 4 yrs' exp planning & executing Java/JEE sw engg. Projects. Salary: $133,390.00 to $141,000.00/year. To apply, email resume & cover letter w/Job Code S584 in subject to: careers@americas.bnpparibas.com. BNP Paribas is an equal opportunity employer fully committed to workplace diversity.

Computer/IT: Oak Hill Advisors, LP seeks a Project Manager in New York, NY to work with Sr. Portfolio Managers & App Dev Team to build & manage highly visible prjcts involving tying together financial data from many sources w/in OHA & providing consistent & accurate reports. Utilize knowl of fincl mrkts to work w/developers to build tools to be used for data analysis, fincl calculations. Option to work remotely 2-3 days a week. SALARY RANGE: $165,000 to $175,000 per year. APPLICANTS: Send resume to Christine Berend, Oak Hill Advisors, L.P., 201 Main Street, Suite 1250, Fort Worth, Texas 76102. Attn: HR Department. Reference Job Code 6537095 when applying.

COMPUTERS: Vatic Investments (New York, NY) seeks Software Engineer to contribute to work directly w/traders/researchers & other developers to engineer cutting edge/ultra-low latency-/high throughput trading systems, play key role in taking projects from conception to deployment & drive innovation for frameworks, benchmarking & tuning critical software services to achieve optimum performance. Must complete & pass Vatic Investment's pre-interview coding test before being considered for interview. Remote work option. $250,000/y. Submit resumes to jobs@vaticinvestments.com, reference Job ID: Software Engineer in the subject line.

Consultant: Bain & Company, Inc — New York, NY — Consultant — Perform management strategy consulting services for clients. Immediately join case teams and become involved in the formulation and implementation of strategic recommendations to improve the performance of Bain's clients. Gather data in the field, analyze the findings, make client presentations, and work with clients to implement Bain's recommendations. Req. BS+2. Travel to client sites as required for client consulting projects, to establish needs and present recommendations. Overnight travel may be required. In New York City, the good-faith, reasonable annualized full-time salary range for this role is between $192,000 - $197,-000, placement within this range will vary based on several factors including, but not limited to experience, education, licensure/certifications, training and skill level. Multiple positions available. Submit resumes via www.bain.com/careers - enter code 'NY-CON- 2022A(3)' in the "Additional Comments" field of the application. No phone calls. Bain is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CONSULTANT
AlixPartners, LLP seeks Management Consultant (Vice President) in New York, NY to serve in management consulting role at global management consulting firm. Up to 80% domestic and intn'l travel to undetermined domestic and international client locations. 100% telecomm. permitted w/in the U.S. $125,000 - $180,000 year. Apply at jobpostingtoday.com
Ref: 41636

CONSULTANT
AlixPartners, LLP seeks a Management Consultant (Vice President) in New York, NY to serve in mgmt. consulting role at global mgmt consulting firm. 100% telecom. permitted w/in US. Up to 80% of travel to undetm. domestic & international client locations. $125,000 - $180,000/year. Apply at jobpostingtoday.com Ref: 79222

Corporate Banking (Sr.) Associate for Citibank, N.A. (New York, NY) Collaborate to plan investment strategies & solutions for clients. REQS: Bachelors degree in Financ, Econ or rld fld & 4 yrs of progressiv, post-baccalaureate exp as a Fincl/Bankng Anlyst, Risk Anlyst, Credit Anlyst, or rld posn invlvg fincl mkt anlysis & modelg for a glbl fincl srvcs institutn. 4 yrs of exp must incld: Fincl, credit, & risk anlysis; Client relatnshp mgmt & cross-sellg fincl prdcts; Workg w/ bankg prdcts & srvcs, includg cash mgmt, supply chain financ, tradg initiatvs, vendor financ, frgn exchng, capital mkts, liability mgmt, share repurchas, commrcl paper, asset-basd/transitnl financ, levrgd restructrg, & intrst rate & equity derivatvs; Negotiatg legal documentatn & legal provisns; Fincl modelg & creatg statstcal & fincl exhbts using Excel, Bloombrg, FactSet, Capital IQ, & SNL; Corp financ, incldg capital structr, capital allocatn, stratgc advsry, & credit rating impact; Prgm mgmt; Acquisitn financg; & Verbal & oral presentatns to stkhlders & clients. Up to 10% domestc travel req'd. Salary range: $175,000 to $185,000/yr; 40 hrs/wk. Applicants submit CV at https://jobs.citi.com/ & search Job Req ID #23642856 or to Citigroup Recruiting Dept., 3800 Citigroup Center Drive, Tampa, FL 33610. EO Employer.

Help Wanted 2600

Credit Portfolio Group Manager for Citibank, N.A. in NY, NY, to lead & dvlp team of risk analysts & manage complex, critical, & lrg profl disciplinary areas. Optimize risk-reward equation for risk policies, calibrate risk appetite thresholds, & maximize value generation thruout customer lifecycle. Remote work permitted w/i commutable distance from worksite, in accordance w/ Citi policy. Employee will supervise work of 2 VP, Credit Portfolio Officers. Req'mts: Must have Bachelor's, or foreign equiv, in Eng'g (any), Stats, Math, or rel quantitative field, & 5 yrs progressive, post-baccalaureate exp in job offered, as Engagement Mgr, Consultant II, or in rel occupation. Employer will accept 1 yr additional exp for unrelated degree. 5 yrs exp must incl: Performing stat analytics on lrg datasets of customers' credit bureau info & performance data to provide credit recommendations & guidance to sr risk mgrs; Identifying trends & data- driven analysis using SQL & dbase mgmt. Sal range: $217,300.00 - $223,600.00/yr. 40 hrs./wk. Applicants submit resumes at https://jobs.citi.com/ or to Citigroup Recruiting Dept., 3800 Citigroup Center Dr, Tampa, FL 33610. Please ref Job Req. ID# 23638389. EOE.

DATA: Aetna Resources LLC, a CVS Health company, is hiring for the following role in New York, NY: Digital Development Engineer (2442887BR) to design and develop digital software applications and platforms. Salary: $154,-562/yr. Principal Data Scientist (2425688BR) to lead the development, validation and delivery of algorithms, statistical models, and reporting tools. Salary: $204,500/yr. Data Scientist (2449499BR) and Lead Data Scientist (2446966BR) to develop and implement analytics applications and models to transform data into meaningful information; telecommuting available. Salary: $129,000/yr (2449499BR). Salary: $181,761/yr (2446966BR). Multiple openings. Related degree &/or experience &/or skills required for all positions. Apply online at: https://jobs.cvshealth.com/. Or mail resume to Attn: P. Messenger, 1 CVS Drive, Mail Code HR695, Woonsocket, RI 02895. Must reference job title, location and Req ID.

DATA
Block, Inc. in New York, NY is seeking to fill the position of Data Scientist to partner with the product stakeholders to identify, prioritize, and answer the most important questions where analytics will have a material impact and produce actionable insights. Telecommuting permitted. Rate of pay: $163,500.00 to $202,800.00 per year. To apply or for benefit inquiries, send resumes to
online-job-apply@squareup.com
Must reference job 21704.604.4.

Data Strategy Project Manager. iHeartMedia Management Services, Inc., New York, NY. Resp. for providing project & sales support to the SmartAudio sales & operations team & will act as the liaison between all internal departments to ensure all key performance measurements are met during campaign execution. Salary, $60,000 - $80,000, DOE. Interested candidates should respond by mail referencing the specific job title to: iHeartMedia Management Services, Inc., PO Box 361382, Los Angeles, CA 90036.

DATA
Palantir Technologies, Inc. seeks Deployment Strategist (2633) in New York, NY. Define data requirements and gather and validate information, applying judgment and statistical tests. Salary range $135,000 - $155,000/yr. Domestic travel required. Mail resume to: Palantir, Attn: Meral Tahir, 1200 17th Ave., Ste. 1500, Denver, CO 80202. Must refrnc. Job Title/# when applying. EOE.

DATA
Palantir Technologies, Inc. seeks Deployment Strategist (2911) in New York, NY. Define data requirements and gather and validate information, applying judgment and statistical tests. Salary range $120,000 - $140,000/yr. Domestic travel required. Mail resume to: Palantir, Attn: Meral Tahir, 1200 17th Ave., Ste. 1500, Denver, CO 80202. Must refrnc. Job Title/# when applying. EOE.

DATA
Dime Community Bank. AVP, Senior Data Analyst. Hauppauge, NY. $117,000 - $148,500/year. Streamline design of Data Warehouse & Data Marts. Gather data from data sources & report requirements from various business lines, developing them to customize to the end user needs. Telecommuting may be permitted. Mail resume to
Robin.Derin@dime.com
Ref job 20468.1.8.

DATA
Dime Community Bank, Data Engineer, Hauppauge, NY. $100,000 - $135,000/yr. Work w/ relational databases & data warehousing. Add new & modify existing data models to ensure data warehouse is up to date for reporting needs. Telecommuting may be permitted. Mail resume to
Robin.Derin@dime.com
Must reference job 20468.3.6.

Data Scientist Lead - New York, New York. Telecommuting permitted up to 40% of the week. Develop and execute machine learning and analytics models. Sal. range: $178,000 - $200,000 per year. For reqs & to apply, visit https://careers.jpmorgan.com & apply to job #:210407224. EOE, AAE, M/F/D/V. JPMorgan Chase & Co. All rights reserved.
www.jpmorganchase.com.

Senior Global Packaging Designer (Estee Lauder Co., Inc, NY, NY): Assists the Director, Packaging on all facets of dsgn as creative collaborator in concept ideation & execution. Bach deg or foreign equiv in Graphic Dsgn or rltd field & 3 yrs exp in an industrial dsgn or graphic dsgn role for a consumer goods mftr. Full term of exp must incl: 3D & graphic packaging dsgns; & Utilizing Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, 3D Rhino & Keyshot. 30% Int'l & Domestic travel reqd. $76,336-$106,000/yr. Resumes to: elcjobs@estee.com, reference: JL23.

Design: Volvox Labs (Brooklyn, NY) seeks Physical Exp Designer for tech-driven design agency & art studio. Req: MFA Computer Art or related + 1 yr exp in tech-driven installation art design. Salary: higher of $75K & DOL Prevailing Wage. Send CV, cover ltr & portfolio Attn: Project Qingpu at
jobs@volvoxlabs.com

Interior Designer (SSM Design LLP d/b/a Spector Group; NYC, NY) Planning & production of multiple dsgns for retail & commercial interior refurbishment. Research & analyze client needs & dvlp approaches in all phases of architectural/interior dsgn projects for large scale projects incl corporate, commercial, retail, entertainment, hospitality, education & lab/hospitality projects. Prep & modify production drawings, specs & rltd project docs in various architectural phases for restoration, renovation & new bldg projects. Reqmts: Bach deg or foreign equiv in Interior Dsgn, Architecture, or closely rltd field, + 2 yrs exp in position offd or a rltd occupation conducting all phases of the Interior Dsgn process, incl planning, concept dvlpmt, dsgn dvlpmt & construction. Must have 2 yrs exp in: planning structures for interior architecture, interior dsgn, spatial perception, drawing & presentation techniques using 2D & 3D presentation & AutoCAD & Adobe Creative Suite & other BIM tools incl: Enscape, Bluebeam, Dynamo Player, Revit Plugins; working on large scale architectural/interior dsgn projects, incl corporate, commercial, retail, entertainment, education, & projects; specifying products & materials that adhere to budget restrictions; & reviewing Bldg Codes & ADA guidelines & ensuring dsgns are in compliance. Salary range: $68,-310-$70,000/yr. Send resume to: design@spectorgroup.com. Please reference job# ID2023.

BIM/CAD Designer (NYC) sought by DY Consulting Engineers, P.C., with a Master's Degree in Architecture or a closely related field. Salary is $82,000 per year. Please send resumes to: Attn: Dennis Yap, 40 Wall Street, Suite 500, New York, NY 10005

Digital Softw Engr Lead Anlyst for Citibank, N.A. in NY, NY to dvlp enterprise grade app code using Java/J2EE & create & deliver client solutions to support Citi's Global Consumer Banking bus. Dvlp, enhance, & implement technl components & solutions for existing products & apps using integration patterns, instrumentation, & tooling to measure effectiveness & productivity. Remote work permitted w/i commutable distance from worksite, in accordance w/ Citi policy. REQ'MTS: Bachelor's or foreign equiv in CS, Comp Info Sys's, Comp Eng'g, or rel field, & 6 yrs progressively responsible exp in job offered, as Softw Eng'r, Mgr - Dvlpmt, Sr. Softw Eng'r, or rel occupation. 6 yrs progressively responsible exp must incl: Utilizing Softw Dvlpmt Lifecycle to design, dvlp, & test high-quality softw; & Dvlpg & integrating web srvcs using REST, JSON, SOAP, & XML. Sal range: $172,700.00 - $208,000.00 /yr. 40 hrs./wk. Applicants submit resumes at https://jobs.citi.com/ or to Citigroup Recruiting Dept., 3800 Citigroup Center Dr, Tampa, FL 33610. Please ref Job ID# 23639942. EOE.

Help Wanted 2600

DIRECTOR MARKETING
& MEDIA STRATEGY
The NYT Co seeks Director, Marketing & Media Strategy in their NYC office to develop the vision and strategy for short and long term conversion media programs. Reqd: Bachelor's degree or equivalent in Marketing, or a closely related field and 4 years of experience in the field. Must have experience in: Direct media buying on 2 or more of the following platforms: Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat or Google platforms; Budget management of $10M+ budgets; analytics platforms such as Google Analytics or Adobe Analytics; managing media and technology vendors. Role holder is eligible to work from home with manager approval. The annual base pay range for this role is between $150,000.00 and $180,000.00. Applicants: Send resume with cover letter with salary requirements and reference code:6173506 to: https://nytimes.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/NYT, search for "REQ-014468"
The New York Times
EOE

Directors w/ Alvarez & Marsal Private Equity Performance Improvement Group in New York, NY. Work w/ Cost Optimization team to provide clients w/ holistic, cross-funct approach to identify high impact opportunities for EBITDA & cash flow imprvmnts. Domestic or international travel required. Frequency & duration impossible to predict. Salary range: $150-200K. Rqmts: Bach deg or foreign equiv in Bus Admin, Fin, Econ, or closely rel field & min 5 yrs of exp in any job title/occupation/position invlvng cost opt prjct leadership exp. Exp must inclu: implmntng cost reduction programs, org restructure, & cost strcture imprvmnts; provdng full transprncy on cost & margin profiles & increasng efficiency of overhead spendng; industrial, business srvcs, distrbtion, or consumer prods & retail industry exp; & structured prjct mgmt. Apply online www.alvarezandmarsal.com Job 202301320. An EOE/AAE employer.

eBay Inc. has the following positions available in New York, NY:
E-Commerce Marketing Analyst 4 (21-14779): Conduct campaign execution, optimization, and ongoing monitoring. Telecommuting permitted from within a commutable distance. Salary Range: $109,845.00 to $131,250.00.
Data Scientist 1 (L22-119507): Design, implement and deploy Machine Learning technologies into reliable and scalable services. Salary Range: $102,482.00 - $176,500.00. Must be legally authorized to work in the U.S. without sponsorship. To apply, please send your resume with references, specifying Req.#, by email to: ebayjobs@ebay.com; or by mail: ATTN: HR, Cube 7.2.170, eBay Inc. HQ, 2025 Hamilton Ave., San Jose, CA 95125. EOE

Compass Lexecon LLC: Economist-New York, NY. Process public & Pvt data, dvlp analytic models, & perform complx econometric & financial analyses using STATA, Excel & other analytical softw. Job req a Master's. in Economics or rltd and 3 yrs of rltd exp. Up to two days/week telework permitted. Req 5% travel to client & other FTI offices. Slry $150,000-$160,000/yr. Exp may be gained through academic coursework, training, or prior work exp. Send cover letter/resume identifying job code MW to
GMJobs@FTIConsulting.com. No calls.

EDUCATION
Brooklyn College of the City University of NY, in Brooklyn, NY, seeks Lecturer of Comp & Info Science; Salary: $83,764; Mail resume to Brooklyn College of the City University of NY, Attn: HR, 2900 Bedford Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11210 quoting job #LCIS22

ENGINEER
Structural Engineer (2 openings) NYC - Undr supvn, perfm strctral engg anlysis & dsgn of high-rise bldgs; prfm bldg load calculation, strcture lateral anlysis, member sizing & optmztn; partcpte in planng, dsgn dvlpmt, & prductn of workg drawings & prjct docs; perfm strctrl anlysis & dsgn for superstrctre components & foundatn components using strctral anlysis/dsgn sftwre; review prjct specs to detrmine dimensions of strctre & materls reqmt; coordnte w/ archtcts, contrcts, MEP & geotchnicl engrs for various strctral engg prjcts inclg studyg archtctral plans; geotchnicl study reprts; slab penetratn, plumbg, & equpmnt layout drawgs, etc.; & create constrctn docs compliant w/ local & state codes. Master deg in Civil Engg or Structural Engg + 2 yrs exp as Structural Engr or Engr invlvg strctral anlysis & dsgn of steel or reinforced concrete beams & columns. Must have 6 mos exp utlzng STAAD Pro or ETABS or similar sftwre for strctral anlysis & dsgn along w/ proficncy in Revit, AutoCAD & Bluebeam. $86,757/yr. Resume to HR, Rosenwasser/Grossman Consulting Engineers, PC, 519 8th Ave., NYC 10018.

ENGINEERING MANAGER,
DATA ENGINEERING
The NYT Co seeks Engineering Manager, Data Engineering to work as an individual contributor to manage teams of Software Engineers in Data Engineering. Reqd: Bachelor's degree or equivalent in Computer Science or a closely related field and 1 year of experience in the field. Must have experience in/with: building modern web applications in React including HTML, JavaScript, and CSS and relational databases and standard SQL. Role holder is eligible to work remotely on a hybrid basis with manager approval and must reside with commuting distance from the worksite. The annual base pay range for this role is between $165,000.00 and $180,000.00. Applicants: Send resume with cover letter, salary requirements and reference code: 6470945 to: https://nytimes.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/NYT, search for "REQ-014463"
The New York Times
EOE

Senior Engineer, Data Architecture & Research (New York, NY) Create, document & mntn complx data pipelines & data prep for storage, anlytcs, ML, integration. Implmt automation, optimization & anlyss for Co. datastores & ntwrks to improve SmartPMP, HCI, AI & core data. Build data-centric, optimized APIs & extract, trnsfr & load data at petabytes scale. Collab w/lead engnrs, rsrch & recommend new techs to refine systm perf. Apply data visualization to meet user reqs. from big data. Req: PhD in Comp Science & 6 mths exp in dvlpng data pipelines operating at petabytes scale, ETL data technologies & evnt-driven architecture, data qlty contrl & testing paradigms. Exp/Knowl in Dsgn Analytics thru academic coursewrk/resrch in HCI & AI. Exp w/Python, SQL, Pandas, REST APIs, Athena, Spark & Airflow. $140,00 to $170,000 per year. Resumes to Predictive Pop Inc. d/b/a Audigent at: suhail.lallmohamed@audigent.com

Project Engineer for Kohler Ronan, LLC (NY, NY) to review electrical specs; perform load calculations; review bldg codes, dsgn stds of bldgs; dsgn electrical systems; create electrical drawings using AutoCAD & Revit; coord w/ other engg disciplines; manage own workload & priorities, meet deadlines; Valid driver license reqd; Travel in NYC metro area as needed by the Co. Salary range $72K-90K/annum. Email resume: rronan@kohlerronan.com

ENGINEER
CTC Trading Group, LLC seeks an Engineer in New York, NY, to contribute to CTC's next generation front office trading services. $145,000/yr. - $165,000/yr. Telecommuting is permitted. Apply at jobpostingtoday.com/ Ref#10240.

Engineering Manager sought by Asana, Inc. for its NY, NY location. Manage team engineers to build product/Infrastructure for our collaboration & software platform. Reqs Mastr degr or foreign equiv in Comp Sci, Eng, MIS, or closely rltd tech field & 3 yrs exp in positn offerd, Programmer or closely rltd positn. Alterntvly, employr will accept Bach degr & 5 yrs progrssve, post-bach exp in above fields. Any suitable combo educ, exp or training is acceptble. Must have dmnstrtd exp in followg: 1 yr leading or managing tech team of at least 3 sw engs & assigng proj tasks; 1 yr algorthms & data structres; 1 yr w/ objct-oriend dsegn prncples; 1 yr exp workg w/ desgnrs, prodct mgrs or other cross-functnl stakehldrs; Web or mobile app program; Program websites, web app program interfces or mobile apps in TypeScrpt, JavaScrpt, Scala, or Swift; Databse mngmnt sys incl eithr Postgrs or MySQL; & Data modeling & ful stack app dvlpmt. 40 hrs/wk. Salary: $220,000 - $280,000/yr. To apply, qualified applicnts mail resumes to recruiting@asana.com & must refernce job code # ENGMGR/ra. Direct applicnts only.

QA Engineer (New York, NY) sought by Thomson Reuters Holdings Inc. Responsible for executing tests & providing test mgmt & test reporting throughout the testing cycle. Telecommuting is permissible from any home office in the US. Salary: $140,005-$160,000/yr. To apply online, visit: http://careers.thomsonreuters.com & refer Req. JREQ167136

Help Wanted 2600

Jefferies LLC (NY, NY) seeks Equity Research Associate to be supprt sr biotech anlysts covrng mid- & small-cap companies. Cndct proprietary rsrch evaluatng drug pipelines by anlyzng preclinical & clinical data, attendng medical confrnces, & speakng w/ key opinion leaders. Write rsrch rprts for initiatns of covrage, anlyss of data, & industry/company news. Rsrch & anlyze sectr data comprisng finc'l statemnts & industry data, recent trends & covrage companies to provde insight to clnts. Create clinical trial statistcl modls/anlyss. Anlyze intellectual property, patent law & litigation rltd to biotech & pharmaceutcls. Conceive of & excute on diffrntd prjct ideas. Intrface w/ company mgmt teams, intrnl sales & tradng personnel, & institutnl invstrs. Id & maintn finc'l modls. Reqs Bach in Statistics or Econometrcs & 5yrs of post-Bach prgrssvly respnsble exp in pos offrd or as Associate or Associate Consultnt. All reqd exp mustve incl'd condctng proprietry rsrch evaluatng drug pipelines by anlyzng scientific literature, attendng medical confrnces, engagng w/ key opinion leadrs to undrstand mkt dynmcs, dem& & future prictn; bldng finc'l modls to quantitatvely anlyze company valuatns, usng valuatn methds such as Discountd Cash Flow, Sum-of-the Parts, & Multples Anlyss; bldng disease & prdct revenue forecast modls incorporatng mrkt landscape knwldge & drug-specific competitve dynmcs; formulatng rsrch ideas & theses incorporatng literature, key opinion leadr feedbck, & all relevnt modlng; & prodcng company- & indstry-level rsrch rprts in writng & presntatns, effectvly conveyng rsrch thesis. Mustve passed FINRA Series 7TO, 86, & 87 exams. This role entails hybrid wrk, w/ some wrk days reqd in our NYC offce & other wrk days telecommutng from anywhere in US. Salary: $185,000/yr. E-mail res to apply@jefferies.com. Ref #44.

Finance: The Bank of Nova Scotia seeks Assoc., Corp Banking, US Real Estate, Hospitality, Gaming & Leisure in NY, NY to support sr officers in dvlpmnt of bus. w/prospective companies & maintenance & enhancement of relationships w/existing accnts. Req'mnts: Bachelor's in Finance, Econ., Bus. Admin, or rel., & 2 yrs of exp in job offered or rel. occupation: anlyzg qualitative & quantitative aspects of borrowers & industry recommendations for appropriate course of action; structuring, anlyzg & performing due diligence to facilitate prompt execution of complex transactions; reviewing loan documentation & updtng internal systs w/pertinent transaction & facility details; running cash flow analysis for repayment tests & liquidity analysis for credit requests through fin'l analysis & modeling; providing concise supporting accnt recommendations & actions; providing day-to-day accnt & portfolio mgmt support for client relationships; conducting regular monitoring of credit & client relationships via annual & quarterly reviews & to ensure credit files, agreements & security docs are complete & up-to-date; dvlpng & maintaining effective industry relationships w/other lenders, legal counsel, & clients; coordinating w/various product groups incl capital mrkts & deposit groups & assisting w/ mrktng pitches of potential transaction opportunities; assisting w/client relationship mgmt & contributing to cross-sell activities; identifying trends & cross-selling opportunities w/in real estate & rel. sectors. Telecommuting &/or work from home is permissible. In alternative, employer will accept Master's in any field to satisfy edu req'mnt. Submit resumes to HR_VC, Scotiabank, 250 Vesey St., NY, NY 10281. Indicate code LS011123NYT. Offered salary is between $161,429-$165,000.

Finance: The Bank of Nova Scotia seeks Assoc., Global Loan Syndications in NY, NY to contribute to success of Global Loan Syndications team in US ensuring specific individual goals, plans, initiatives are executed & delivered in support of team's bus. strategies & objectives. Req'mnts: Master's or foreign equiv in Finance, Econ., Real Estate or rel. field & 2 yrs of exp in job offered or rel. occupation: utilizing softw incl Bloomberg, C360, Salesforce, ClientNet & Tableau; utilizing fin'l softw incl Capital IQ; performing quant & qualitative analysis & industry research incl excel fin'l modeling of company performance & projected performance, & tracking & anlyzg external comparable data info on fin'l transactions sourced from Capital IQ, Moody's, & S&P rating agencies; utilizing exp w/pro rata, institutional & bridge loan productions, capital structuring, risk mgmt, & origination & execution of loan product; liaising w/stakeholders to manage syndication process & execute mandated deals. Telecommuting &/or work from home may be permissible pursuant to company policies. When not telecommuting, must report to work site. 10% trvl req'd. Offered salary is between $102,000-$155,000/yr. 40 hrs/wk. Submit resumes to HR_VC, Scotiabank, 250 Vesey St., NY, NY 10281. Indicate code SZ041923AD.

Finance: The Bank of New York Mellon seeks Senior Principal, Strategic Planning in NY, NY to analyze areas of key strategic focus to ensure success of organization by institutionalizing programs & processes to enhance Enterprise Innovation product offerings & value proposition. Contribute to dvlpmt of risk mgmt sys's. REQ'MTS: Bachelor's, or foreign equiv, in Bus. Admin, Fin'c, Economics or rel field, & 10 yrs progressively responsible exp in job offered, or rel quantitative occupation. 10 yrs progressively responsible exp must incl: Identifying & managing key risks & mitigating as req'd on legal issues, dvlpmt risks, & regulatory compliance on build out; & Dvlpg bus. cases for prioritization using rubric scoring sys to rank each scenario against ROI, costs, & risk categories. Employer will accept 3 yrs university-level studies + 2 yrs exp in meeting Bachelor's req'mt. Any suitable combo of edu, training, or exp acceptable. 30% travel req'd, domestic & international. Sal range: $216,000.00 to $225,000.00. Qualified applicants please apply online at https://bnymellon.eightfold.ai/careers & utilize ref code #37414. Please indicate "referral source—advertisement— NYT".

Finance: The Bank of New York Mellon seeks Specialist, Treasury & ALM in NY, NY, to perform policy writing, liquidity assessments, analytical research, data gathering, calculations, modeling & forecasting rel to controlling risks associated w/ assets, liabilities, liquidity funding, capital & IRR mgmt. Req'mts: Bachelor's or foreign equiv in Math, Stats, Computational Fin'c, Economics, Analytical Fin'c, Fin'c or rel field & 5 yrs progressively responsible exp in job offered or rel Fin'c occupation. 5 yrs progressively responsible exp must incl: Dvlpg & supporting Asset Liability Mgmt (ALM) models, mkt risk, liquidity & pricing models for lrg complex fin'l institutions; Utilizing stats & fin'l modeling, integrating data analytics concepts to fin'l srvcs industry, & translating bus. challenges into Data Science problems. Sal range: $175,240-$175,240/yr. Qualified applicants pls apply online at https://bnymellon.eightfold.ai/careers & utilize ref code # 38454. Pls indicate "referral source- advertisement- NYT".

FINANCE
Senior Manager, Risk Assurance Compliance & Analytics (Mult Pos), PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, New York, NY. Prvd tech solns & procdrs tht hlp clnts idntfy, detect, measure, monitr, & predict oprtnl or entrprs risk. Mst have Bach's deg or foreign equiv in Comp Sci, Bus Anlytcs, Math, Fin, MIS, or rel + 6 yrs rel wrk exp, of whch at least 5 yrs mst be post-bach's, prgrssv rel wrk exp; OR Master's deg or foreign equiv in Comp Sci, Bus Anlytcs, Math, Fin, MIS, or rel + 4 yrs rel wrk exp. 80% telecommtng prmttd. Mst be able to commute to desgntd local office. Trvl up to 60% req. Salary $175,240 - $175,240/yr. Apply by email at
US_PwC_Career_Recruitment@
pwc.com
referencing Job Code NY3712.

Nomura Holding America Inc. (NY, NY) seeks Finance Associate to rvw Rtrn on Captl, Levraged Exspre, Return on Levraged expsres. Rvw adjstmnts made to ledgr, idntfy aged adjstmnts & wrk w/ team to ensre there is resoln plan in place. Reqs Bach in Finance or Bus Admin (w/ concn in Finance) +3 yrs exp in offrd pos or as Finance Anlyst for fincl srvces or bankng institutn. All reqd exp mustve incld reconcilng daily Structurd Dervatvs P&L for tradng desks; anlyzng P&L attributn, consolidatng & reconcilng asset balances for tradng desks; verfyng firm balance sheet for US GAAP accrcy; & reconcilng & rprtng mnth end P&L, IPV adjstmnts, & balance sheets. Salary: $143,000/yr. E-mail res to jasmine.beatty @nomura.com. Ref. #00981.

FINANCE
Senior Associate, Financial Due Diligence (Mult Pos), PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, New York, NY. Hlp orgs realz the potntl of mrgrs, acqustns, divestitures & captl markts. Req. Bach's deg or foreign equiv in Acct, Bus Admin, Econ, Tax, or rel + 3 yrs rel wrk exp; OR a Master's deg or foreign equiv in Acct, Bus Admin, Econ, Tax, or rel + 1 yr rel wrk exp. 80% telecommtng prmttd. Mst be able to commute to designated local office. Trvl up to 20% req. Salary $142,000 - $142,000/yr. Apply by email at
US_PwC_Career_Recruitment@
pwc.com
referencing Job Code NY3722.

Help Wanted 2600

Finance: Artisan Partners Limited Partnership seeks a Research Associate in New York, NY. Role allow an analytical and technology proficient candidate a broad opportunity to conduct research, monitor key metrics, identify insights, and develop communications to support a variety of key internal and external stakeholders. REQS: Bachelor's degree, or foreign equivalent, in Economics, Finance, Investments or a related field, plus 1 year of experience as a research associate or research analyst role at investment management firm. Rate of Pay: $178,500 To apply, please send resume to Paige Shank at paige.shank@artisanpartners.com
Subject: Research Associate

Finance & Administration Specialist sought by J L & Company Limited in New York, NY to oversee US daily Finance & Administration operations within the JL&Co entity & responsible for coordination of all finance, administrative, HR matters. Minimum of Bachelor's degree or foreign equiv in Finance, Accounting, Audit Control or rltd + 3 yrs exp in job offered or rltd required. Interested candidates apply by mail to David Berrios; 800 Madison Ave, New York, NY 10065. Ref job code: 00004 ($71k to $96k)

Associate, Private Equity sought by Blackstone Inc. in New York, NY to work on companies in a wide range of industries on potential investments, acquisitions, analysis of potential exit opportunities. Minimum of Bachelor's degree or foreign equiv in Finance, Economics, or rltd + 4 yrs exp in job offered or rltd required. Interested candidates send resume via email to HR-JobInquiries@Blackstone.com. Ref job code: 27453 ($160k to $175k)

Vice President, Investment Banking, Consumer Retail Coverage sought by Barclays Capital Inc. (NY, NY) to Advise clients in Consumer Retail (CR) space on holistic banking activities. Min of Bchlr's dgr (or frgn eqvlnt) in Bsns Admnstrtn, Fnce, or clsly rltd fld & 5 yrs of pst-bclrt prgrsv exprnc in pstn offrd or as an Invstmnt Bnkng Anlyst, Ascte or rltd pstn. Dmnstrtd exprnc must incld: Anlyzng indstry & sctr trnds w/in the CR ecsystm, incldng mercnmc evnts, & crprt, strtgc & fncl dvlpmnts; Mngng exctn of CR trnsctns, incldng mrgrs, acqstns, dvstrs, spn-offs, splt-offs, & rstrctrngs; Utlzng M&A, crdt anlysis & cptl mrkts actvty knwldg to prvd advsry srvcs to clnts & intrnl tms; Anlyzng the prfrmnc of CR cmpns, fncl stmnts & bsns drvrs to cnstrct rltd fncl, vltn & oprtng mdls; Cndctng CR cmpny & indstry rsrch, & mkng rcmndtns to clnts; Dvlpng clnt cntnt, incldng vltn anlyses, frns opns, evltns of acqstns, dvstrs, & cptl raises, ofrng mmrndms, brd mtrls, invstr prsntns, & rtng agncy prsntns; Fclting trnsctns & undrwrtng of scrts, incldng dtrmng the price & size of scrts & prvdng fncl mdls to ptntl invstrs & crdt agncs; Utlzng Factset pltfrm for fncl mdlng, vltn & prsntn mtrls, anlysis of mrkt data, stck prce prfrmnc, cmpny fncls & rsrch estmts, cmpny ownrshp & shrhldr strctr, indstry & M&A scrng; & Utlzng Blmbrg for evltn of eqty, crdt & drvtv mrkts, anlysis of stck prce mvs & dbt trdng lvls, & cst of cptl clcltns Salary/Rate Min/yr: $265,000; Salary/Rate Max/yr: $265,000. Inclds only base salary or base hrly rate. Does not incld other comp or benefits tht may be avail. Apply at https://barclays.taleo.net/careersection/2/moresearch.ftl & enter job #00283239. Barclays is EEO/AA.

Vice President, Investment Banking, Consumer Retail Coverage sought by Barclays Capital Inc. (NY, NY) to advs clnts in the Cnsmr Rtl spc on bnkng actvts, incldng evltn & exctn of key strtgc dcsns. Reqs: Bchlr's dgr or frgn eqvlnt in Fnc, Bsns Admnstrtn, Ecnmcs, or clsly rltd fld & 5 yrs of pst-bclrt prgrsv exprnc as an Invstmnt Bnkng Anlyst/Ascte or rltd pstn. Dmnstrtd exprnc must incld: Anlyzng indstry & sctr trnds w/in the Cnsmr Rtl ecsystm, a/w/a mercnmc evnts, & crprt, strtgc & fncl dvlpmnts & mkng rcmndtns to clnts; Mngng exctn of Cnsmr Rtl trnsctns, incldng mrgrs, acqstns, dvstrs, & rstrctrngs Utlzng M&A, crdt anlysis & cptl mrkts knwldg to prvd advsry srvcs to clnts & intrnl tms; Anlyzng the prfrmnc of Cnsmr Rtl cmpns, fncl stmnts & bsns drvrs to cnstrct rltd fncl, vltn & oprtng mdls; Dvlp clnt cntnt, incldng vltn anlyses, frns opns, evltns of acqstns, dvstrs, & cptl rses, offrng mrndms, brd mtrls, invstr prsntns, & rtng agncy prsntns; Fclting trnsctns & undrwrtng of scrts, incldng dtrmng the prc & sze of scrts & prvdng fncl mdls to ptntl invstrs & crdt agncs; & Utlzng Fctst, Bamsec, Mrgr Mrkt & Ptchbk pltfrms for fncl mdlng, vltn & prsntn mtrls, anlysis of mrkt data, stck prc prfrmnc, cmpny fncls & rsrch estmts, cmpny ownrshp & shrhldr strctr, indstry & M&A scrng. Slry/Rate Min/yr: $275,000; Slry/Rate Max/yr : $275,000 Inclds only base salary or base hrly rate. Does not incld other comp or benefits tht may be avail. 40 hrs/wk. Apply at https://barclays.taleo.net/careersection/2/moresearch.ftl & enter job #00283224. Barclays is EEO/AA.

Associate (TMT) sought by PWP Employer LP (dba Perella Weinberg Partners) for NY, NY off. Cnduct strat rview of cmpanies & use fin anlysis & mdling to eval qualty of scurities in TMT sctor. Req Bach or foreign equiv in Fin, Econ, Bus Admn or rltd & 3 yrs exp as Fin Anlyst or rltd in fin advsry. Exp must incl prfrming: Cmplx fin anlysis & model to prvide strat rview on compnies in TMT sctor incl cllect & fin anlysis of data on vrious cmpanies; Cnduct cmpany vluate thru dvlpmnt of fin mdels, incl price, cash flow, comp cmpany, prcdent trans, mrger plan, lvrage buyout, crdit, cntrbution, ablity to pay anlysis, sum-of-prts anlysis & SPAC anlysis; Engage in client rltonship mgmt & rprting outcmes of fin anlysis to clients & cnslting w/ clients on vrious fin & oprtional needs; Mnitor & assess macro/micro econ cndtions & econ 4casts, & prsent finds to clients & mgmt; Prfrming quant & qual anlyses & synthsis of data & info across multi sctors & for individual cmpany; Prticipate in due dilgnce, use Excel, PwrPoint, vrious mkt data sys, & prfrming anlyses of inc grwth, qual of mgmt, mkt share & ptential sctor risks; Dvloping & create fin prictions & prep mkt & mgmt prsntation mterials & Prfrming fairness opinions & spcial comitee assigns. Must have FINRA Series 79 & SIE. 40 hrs/wk. Salary: $185,000-$225,000/year. To apply email resume to recruitment@pwpartners.com & ref job code: ATMT/cf.

Vice President 1 & 2, Restructuring (NY, NY) for Evercore Partners Services East LLC to execute strategic & corporate fin'l objectives for corporate & fin'l sponsor clients, incl potential offerings of debt & equity-linked across a range of transactions incl but not limited to leveraged buyouts, acquisition financings, dividend recapitalizations, refinancing, repricing & growth capital. Reqs Bach deg in Bus Admin, Economics, Finance or a rltd field, & 5 yrs exp as Associate, Consultant, Analyst, or rltd role in a quantitative field in Finance, Business or rltd field. Will accept Master's deg & 3 yrs exp in lieu of Bach deg & 5 yrs exp. Exp specified must incl 5 yrs exp (or 3 yrs exp if Master's deg) w/ each of the following: research, explaining mkt events utilizing quantitative & analytical skills; MS Office (Excel & PowerPoint); fin'l modeling; utilizing general acctg & finance principles; Bloomberg, FactSet, SNL/S&P Global; research resources such as The Deal Mergermarket, Debtwire, Wall Street Journal & other industry publications. Up to 20% domestic travel is reqd. Telecommuting may be permitted. Salary: $250,000-$275,000/yr. To apply please send resume to RecruitingHR@Evercore.com

AVP, Quantitative Analyst Modeler sought by Barclays Services Corp for its NY, NY lctn to build, implement and execte stat mdls. Req a Mstrs's dgr, or frgn equiv in Econ, Fin Econ, Stat, or rel field & 3 yrs of exp as a Quant Anlst, or rel occupation. Mst hve 3 yrs of exp w/each of the fllwng: data anlyss to supprt model data prep & dev; Buildng predictive & regltry models to support model dev & test & anlyze model forecstng reslts; Implmentng stat & econ knowledge to condct stat tests, explre how portfolio attribtes & macroecon variables impct the risk of portfolios, & support model dev; Documenting predictive & reg models to support model dev; Working with large data sets to conduct model dev & implement model execution; Utilizing SAS & R Programng to perform analysis. Salary/Rate Min/yr $160,000; Salary Rate Max/yr $170,000; Inclds only base salary or base hrly rate. Does not incld other comp or benefits tht may be avail. 40 hr/wk. Apply at https://barclays.taleo.net/careersection/2/moreresearch.ftl w/job ID # 00282894.

Financial: Oak Hill Advisors, LP seeks a Vice President, US Credit in New York, NY to monitor and manage staff on both quantitative and qualitative credit analysis. Responsible for assisting assoc, sr anlysts, and portfolio mgrs in various aspects of the investment process & evaluation of ideas. Option to work remotely 2-3 days a week. SALARY RANGE: $200,000 to $200,000 per year. APPLICANTS: Send resume to Christine Berend, Oak Hill Advisors, L.P., 201 Main Street, Suite 1250, Fort Worth, Texas 76102. Attn: HR Department. Reference Job Code 6489752 when applying.

nytimes.com/jobs JOBS

To place your ad in print and online, call (212) 556-8034 or 1-800-238-4637; To post a job online, visit nytimes.com/jobs

Help Wanted 2600

FINANCIAL ANALYST: New York, NY. Perf valuation of companies & securities using mult. methods incl discounted cash flow, levered buyout, & free cash flow analyses. Analyze & forecast financial & operating perf of pub. companies by analyzing income statements, balance sheets & cash flow statements. Analyze impact of transactions/mergers on pro forma financials of a co. using accretion/dilution analysis. Perform company-specific diligence by interviewing mgmt teams & visiting co. facilities. Create & present findings of diligence & financial analysis to internal mgmt & fund investors. Eval & compare relative quality of different potential investments in a given industry. Recommend investments to firm's CIO. Gather data on commod. pricing trends, inventories & costs by surveying mkt participants & researching publicly-available sources. Analyze & forecast global pricing, supp & demand for commodities in light of shifting regs and econ. indicators such as consumer confid, employment, & corp. profits. Analyze employment rates, mfg data, the CPI, GDP growth & other econ. data to forecast global econ. trends. Develop proprietary regression models specific to relevant commodities & industries to assess impact of econ. variables on securities prices, & determine correl. betw indiv securities prices & industry-wide indices. Draft & maintain econ. benchmark rpts. Advise fund mgrs on how global econ. will affect company's long- & short-term investments. Requires bachelor's in Econ, Bus Admin, or closely related field & 24 mos. exp. Fin. Anal. or Economist. Educ must include Microeconomics, Macroeconomics & Bus. Stats. Courses. Work exp must include 24 mos exp valuing companies & modeling commod supply & demand, & 24 months' exp using MS Excel to perform econ and fin modeling, & using Bloomberg & CapitalQ to perform fin and econ research. Salary $77,272/year.
Send resume to
marcelo.queiroz@bornitecapital.com

Financial: Trusted Media Brands, Inc. seeks FT Financial App Functional Lead to: lead the Financial Sys func. team to dev., test and create solutions that address TMB's needs w/in & across its fin. apps; manage the team in perform func. testing of TMB's fin. apps as part of qtr. patch releases of Oracle; understand & communicate to Dir. of Fin. Apps & key stakeholders impact of requests to change TMB's fin. apps and sys; work with users of TMB's fin. apps to validate, investigate, report, & resolve issues related to apps; continually rev. TMB's fin. apps systems to identify ptnl. improvements; ensure timely execution & suprt in conjun with key intl./extl. fin. deadlines. Telecomm. allowed, but must be able to travel TMB's offices in New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA area, as needed. Min. Reqs:U.S. Bach deg in Accounting, Finance, or IT or Foreign Equiv. & 7 yrs' exp. supporting fin. sys. using Oracle Cloud Financial Modules. Apply to: George Habrecht, TMB, Inc., 485 Lexington Ave., NY, NY 10017, george.habrecht@tmbi.com.

Financial: Lead Risk Management Analyst w/Nasdaq, Inc. (New York, NY). Conduct risk monitoring & surveillance of Nasdaq's financial risks, incl investments, trade receivables, banking relationships, & counterparty risk through trading venues. Position reqs a Bach's deg or foreign equiv in Finance, Econ, Financial Engineering or a rel quantitative field & 4 yrs of exp as a Market, Credit, or Financial Risk Associate or rel position. Exp must incl: Working in capital markets incl equities, fixed income, or commodities; Financial modeling or risk mgmt., incl monitoring credit & counterparty risks, & using stress testing models; Using quantification incl modelling risks; Using excel models, coding (Tableau/R) or Bloomberg models; & Participating in credit review of issuers of potential fixed income investments. Salary range: $146,370 to $217,800. Resumes to usimmigration@nasdaq.com, Ref. code: LRMANINY

Senior Auditor (CPA) (Flushing, NY) Conduct financial/compliance audits & reviews in accordance with PCAOB and U.S. GAAS standards for various entities. Establish audit plans/programs & lead assigned team members in performing the procedures. Solve complex audit issues. Assist in audited financial statements. Manage clients & train team members, etc. Salary: $87,942 yearly. Master's degree in Accounting and NY State CPA license required. Send resume to HR, Wei, Wei & Co., LLP, 133-10 39th Ave, Flushing, NY 10019

Regional Financial Planning Analyst Lead, Marketing sought by Chowbus, Inc. in Flushing, NY to manage short-/long-term fin'l planning process, challenge assumptions & ensure business drivers are clearly understood & highlighted. Reqs: Master's deg in ERM, Finance, Bus Admin, or rltd field. Must also possess course work or work exp w/fundamental principles of finance incl fin'l stmts & ratios analysis to evaluate fin'l performance; acctng principles/processes; etc. Salary: $133,370 - $135,370. Apply online at: https://www.chowbus.com/careers

Financial: Deloitte & Touche LLP seeks an Audit & Assurance Senior Manager in New York, NY to oversee the day-to-day operations of multiple engagements. Less than 10% travel outside of normal commuting distance. Salary: $135,491 - $242,370/yr. To apply visit https://apply.deloitte.com/. Enter XSFH23FA0523NYR2 in 'Search jobs' field. EOE, including disability/veterans.

Financial Engineer(New York, NY) Structure real-world examples of trades & perform valuation &/or risk analytics tasks using Numerix CrossAsset library & other Numerix Products & tools. Work with the team on various key projects ranging from structuring, valuation. Send your resumes to Numerix LLC, Attn: HR, 99 Park Ave, 5th Fl, New York, NY 10016.

Fine Arts Logistics Managers (Cadogan Tate, Brooklyn, NY) for int'l & US Interior design clients. Primary contact for key customers. Manage projects and customer expectations. Must have BA in Fine Arts + exp. 1% dom travel req. Send resume to Cadogan Tate New York Limited, Attn: Roneeta Mewasingh Req# CMFALM at r.mewasingh@cadogantate.com, 301 Norman Avenue , Brooklyn, NY 11222 or apply online at: https://www.cadogantate.com/en/join-our-team/

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
RF Binder Partners, Inc. seeks Sr. Graphic Designer (New York, NY). Req Bach. in Comm. Design, Graphic Design, Visual Design or rltd + 3 yrs exp as Graphic Designer or rltd role working in PR agency. Prior exp. must incl. using full Adobe Creative Suite incl. Figma, Adobe XD, and Sketch as primary UI/UX design software; Using Suitcase Fusion for managing fonts; Netsuite; full MS Office Suite; Flexitive to create dynamic digital ads; Executing visual design proj. for clients in Fin. Svcs., Edu., Corp. Social Governance, Health & Wellness, Food & Bev, & Energy; Using CMS to create & modify websites for clients w/ comprehension of ESP incl. Mailchimp; Social media mrktg incl. organic & paid media & user/creative testing to create insights & projections; Creating video animation graphics in After Effects or Adobe Premiere, w/ exp. in interactive social content, live action, & video explainers & GIFs; &, experiential design incl. use of environmental graphics, producing large-scale designs, & designing visual triggers & touchpoints w/in a spatial experience. Salary range is $92,650 to $92,650/yr. May work remotely but able to report to NY, NY office regularly. Send resumes to
KHTalent@rfbinder.com
ref: KH. Direct apps only.

Senior Designer (ELC Management LLC, NY, NY): Maintain innovative, consistent & brand appropriate dsgn solutions to contribute to generating dsgn concepts for both print collateral & interactive dsgn. Reqs Bach deg in Graphic Dsgn, Communication Dsgn, Digital Dsgn or rltd or foreign equiv & 1 yr exp as a Graphic Dsgnr or rltd occupation dsgng digital concepts & brand awareness through social & traditional media. Exp must incl print & web/interactive media dsgn; & dsgng clean aesthetic w/ typography using Adobe Creative Suite. $69,000-$104,000/yr. Resumes to: elcjobs@estee.com, reference: SY23.

HF Management Services, LLC (Healthfirst) seeks Sr Application Developer, Pega to design, develop & maintain complex apps using Pega solutions that adhere to platform best practices. Requires Bachelor's or foreign education equivalent in CS, Comp Engg or IT + 5 years' experience performing process excellence/modelling, workflow or flow charting. Salary range: $157,477-$184,000. Remote work permitted anywhere in US except in DC, Alaska, Arkansas, Hawaii, Idaho, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, N. Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, S. Dakota, Vermont & Wyoming. Email cover letter & resume w/ Job Code R016127 in subject to: bgottlieb@Healthfirst.org.

IT/Software: Sr. Site Reliability Eng'r for EdTech firm to create infrastructure & build platform for apps & services. Full-time remote work permitted. Annual salary-$160k- 180K. Send resume to HR, Newsela, 500 5th Ave, 28th Fl, NY, NY 10110.

Help Wanted 2600

IT: Two Sigma Investments, LP seeks Softw Engr (NY, NY) Incls but not limited to Analyze & gather softw req'mts & eng'r/optimize quantitative comp sys's. Assess, design, & implement dynamic front-end & back-end functionalities & sys's & eng'r dependable & functional user softw interfaces to support success of Two Sigma's quantitative comp-based electronic Alpha Capture bus.. Must have Bachelor's in Comp Sci, CS, or rel field. Position does not req specific yrs exp but req's listed skills. Must have demonstrated knowl of prog'g languages following Object Oriented Prog'g (OOP) paradigm in Java or C++, incl write unit tests & functional tests. Must have demonstrated knowl of scripting in Python or Unix shell scripts. Must have demonstrated knowl of data structures & algorithms & app in real-world problem solving. Must have demonstrated knowl of how to architect & implement simple quantitative comp sys's, that incl but not limited to parallel computing & lrg-scale computations. Must have demonstrated knowl of bldg web srvcs & designing & implementing REST srvcs based on JSON. Must have demonstrated knowl of Javascript, HTML & building basic web front-end UI. Must have demonstrated knowl of dvlpg on Unix-based environs & working w/ version control sys's like Git. Must have demonstrated knowl of SQL & relational dbases. Must have demonstrated knowl of how to review code of other dvlprs & analyze for adherence to best practices, design & algorithm choices, API design, test coverage & documentation. Must pass co.'s req'd skills assessment. Employer will accept any amount of academic coursework, or exp gained prior to completion of Bachelor's w/ req'd skills. Rate of pay: $165,000 - $300,000/yr (may also be eligible for other forms of compensation & bnfts). Send resume to TS/HR Dept., Two Sigma Investments, LP, 100 Avenue of the Americas, 16th Fl, NY, NY 10013 or email resume to TS-Posting@twosigma.com & ref Job # 11765.

IT/Software: Sr. Salesforce Marketing Cloud Developer at Voya Institutional Plan Services, LLC (New York, NY). Resp for development, coding, configuration, testing, & debugging. Work w/ marketing automation solutions & integrations using Salesforce Marketing Cloud Platform & ETL tools. 100% telecommuting position. Will consider applicants resident in the U.S. Reqts: Bach's deg or foreign equiv in Comp Inf Systems, Comp Science, Comp Engineering or a rel field, & 5 yrs of exp as a Salesforce Developer or rel position. Exp must incl: Working w/ Salesforce Marketing Cloud; Application Development; Writing queries in SQL/SOQL, working w/ Data Loader, Workbench, & ETL tools to perform bulk data updates; Hands-on exp w/ Email Studio, Mobile Studio, Content Builder, Contact Builder, Web Studio, Automation Studio, & Journey Builder; Working w/ ETL, Server-Side JavaScript (SSJS), SQL, AMPscript, JSON, & SOAP/REST APIs. Salary range: $157,500 to $162,500. To apply, please submit resume through www.voya.com and search by JR0027923 or job title, or contact Brian Peruta at Brian.Peruta@voya.com.

IT/Software: Sr. IT Quality Engineer at Voya Retirement Insurance and Annuity Company (New York, NY). Provide tech leadership from a quality perspective, infusing quality delivery through all phases of the software & tech delivery lifecycle. 100% telecommuting position. Will consider applicants resident in the continental U.S. Reqts: Bach's deg or foreign equiv in Info Tech, Comp Sci, or Comp Engineering, & 3 yrs of exp working as a Software Engineer, Quality Assurance Engineer or a rel position. Exp must incl: Utilizing Software QA methodologies, tools, & processes; Software development and/or infrastructure delivery; Programming skills: Java, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, SQL, Bash, Git, API, or JSON Testing; Working w/ Maven, TestNG, JUnit, Selenium, Appium, Jenkins, Cucumber, Saucelabs, GitHub, Postman, SOAP UI, or OracleDB PM; Working w/ Agile, Waterfall, or ALM. Salary range: $115,380 to $144,230. To apply, please submit resume through www.voya.com and search by JR0027960 or job title, or contact Brian Peruta at Brian.Peruta@voya.com.

IT: ADP Technology Services, Inc. seeks a Senior Software Engineer at our New York, NY loc. to ptcpt. in all aspects of SDLC, incl planning, specification, dvlpt of code, testing, review, & demonstrations. Bach's deg, in Comp. Sci, Comp. Engg., Info Sys or a reld field + 5 yrs of rel exp. ADP will accept a Master's deg + 2 yrs of rel exp. - 2 yrs of exp must incl: Java 8 & later; Java Spring; SOA; OOAD; OOP; Hibernate; JDBC; RESTful & SOAP-based web services, incl JSON & XML; Unit testing frameworks, including Junit; Relational Databases; Object oriented design patterns; Distributed systems architecture; Scrum agile methodology; & Jenkins. Annual base salary for this position is $157,477 to $176,300. To apply, please respond to req. 238893 at http://jobs.adp.com. Alternatively, applicants may mail their resume to the following address referencing req. 238893: 1 ADP Blvd., MS 248, Roseland, NJ 07068.

Information Technology Project Technical Lead for Citibank, N.A. in NY, NY, to work w/i Data & Analytics group that has regulatory & global exposure. Manage regulatory program & projects for Data & Analytics team. Remote work permitted w/i commutable distance from worksite, in accordance w/ Citi policy. Req'mts: Req's Bachelor's, or foreign equiv, in Eng'g (any), IT, or rel field, & 6 yrs progressively responsible exp in job offered or in rel occupation. 6 yrs exp must incl: Following Softw Dvlpmt Life Cycle (SDLC) & establishing min levels of document quality using Jira, PTS 2.0, Visio, Datamind, HP ALM QC, IBM RTC, Jenkins, BMC RLM & PowerPoint to manage regulatory program efforts. Sal range: $165,000.00 - $178,500.00/yr. 40 hrs./wk. Applicants submit resumes at https://jobs.citi.com/ or to Citigroup Recruiting Dept., 3800 Citigroup Center Dr, Tampa, FL 33610. Please reference Job ID# 23641730. EOE.

IT: Saks.com LLC seeks Sr Softw Eng'r, Web Platform in NY, NY to dsgn, implement, & deliver softw solutions for Saks website & mobile web. Req'mnts: Master's or foreign equiv in CS, IT or rel. field & 4 yrs of progressively responsible exp in job offered or rel. occupation: dvlpng cloud-based B2C or B2B web apps; utilizing exp in API & server side dvlpmnt & in-programming language incl NodeJS, Python, Ruby, Javascript, Go, Scala, & Java; utilizing retail or fashion industry exp to drive discussion w/product & translate bus. req'mnt to tchncl deliverables; & utilizing Continuous Integration/Continuous deployment tools incl Docker/Kubernetes to host Platform API for internal & external customers. Telecommuting &/or work from home may be permissible pursuant to company policies. Offered salary is between $157,477 and $200,000. Submit resume to jobs@saks.com. Ref: AM582023AD.

IT: The BNY Mellon Government Securities Services Corporation seeks Senior Specialist, Full-Stack Developer in NY, NY to consult w/ internal bus. groups to provide appropriate app softw dvlpmt srvcs or technl support REQ'MTS: Bachelor's or foreign equiv in Applied CS, CS, Comp Eng'g, or rel field, & 7 yrs progressively responsible exp in job offered or in rel occupation. 7 yrs progressively responsible exp must incl: Reviewing configuration & security settings w/i dbases of fin'l sys's & apps using MS SQL, Oracle, DB2, & Sybase; Reviewing configuration & security settings w/i operating sys's of fin'l sys's & apps using Windows & UNIX platform. Sal range: $180,000.00 - $200,000.00/yr. Qualified applicants please apply online at https://bnymellon.eightfold.ai/career & utilize ref code #34618. Please indicate "referral source- advertisement- NYT."

IT: The Bank of New York Mellon seeks Senior Specialist, Business Architect in Woodland Park, NJ to provide support srvcs to apps teams & solution/domain architects w/ respect to bus. capabilities. REQ'MTS: Bachelor's or foreign equiv in CS, Data Science, Mechanical Eng'g, Electrical Eng'g, or rel field & 3 yrs exp in job offered, or rel IT occupation. 3 yrs exp must incl: Building app process workflow using BPMN modeler incl Camunda & Activiti, & designing sys architecture using ORBUS & Visio; Designing & integrating multiple backend sys's using industry standard technologies incl Java, Spring Boot, REST API's, Message Queues, Apache Kafka, & micro srvc architecture. Qualified applicants please apply online at https://bnymellon.eightfold.ai/careers & utilize ref code #37518. Pls indicate "referral source- advertisement—NYT.

IT: Multiplyr Inc. seeks candidates for a Blockchain Engineer position at its main office in New York. 120k-$140k/yr. Position requires a Bachelor's degree in computer science, mathematics or related technical fields, plus 1 year experience at a technology company developing and maintaining web OR blockchain development software using any of Python, Javascript or Solidity; and planning and managing data engineering projects, such as consuming large volumes of data, and engineering to store and retrieve such data efficiently. Please email resumes and cover letter with a mailing address to Mr. Tarik Moon at tarik@multiplyr.xyz.

Help Wanted 2600

IT: Two Sigma Investments, LP seeks Softw Engr in NY, NY. Incls but not limited to Dvlp next generation time-series storage solution on top of cloud native primitives & standard data format. Eval, dvlp on & contribute to relevant open source project integrated w/ storage solution. Must have Bachelor's or equiv in CS, Comp Eng'g, or rel field. Position does not req specific yrs exp but req's listed skills. Must have demonstrated knowl of softw eng'g incl dvlpg, testing, & troubleshooting code in 1 &/or more of following prog'g languages: Java/C++/Python. Must have demonstrated knowl of common RPC frameworks like gRPC & REST. Must have demonstrated knowl of microsrvcs or srvc-oriented architecture, & protocols like REST or gRPC on HTTP. Must have demonstrated knowl of use of different data stores such as relational dbase, key-value store, message queue & time-series dbases. Must have demonstrated knowl of Pandas ecosys as Python data science & data analytics library. Must have demonstrated knowl of data warehouse, dbase sys internals, & lrg-scale data processing solutions like Hadoop &/or Spark. Must have demonstrated knowl of dvlpg softw & working w/ operating sys's in prof'l setting. Must have demonstrated knowl of how to use version control (git) extensively. Must pass co.'s req'd skills assessment. Employer will accept any amount of exp gained prior to completion of Bachelor's w/ req'd skills. Rate of pay: $165,000 - $300,000/yr (may also be eligible for other forms of compensation & bnfts). Send resume to TS/HR Dept., Two Sigma Investments, LP, 100 Avenue of the Americas, 16th Fl, NY, NY 10013 or email resume to TS-Posting@twosigma.com & ref Job # 11815.

IT Multiple Positions: E-Commerce Analyst: Manage technology delivery teams to conform to business and technology requirements specification. Salary $139,693/yr. Technical Architect: Perform data analysis according to business needs. Salary $117,042/yr. Jobs based in New York, NY but requires travel/relocation to various unanticipated locations throughout U.S. Email resume to chandrashekar.jc@kloud9.nyc or mail resume to Kloud9 LLC, 85th Floor, One World Trade Center, New York, NY 10007. No walk-ins.

IT: Compass Management Holdings, LLC has a role in New York, NY. *Data Engineer [COMP-NY22-YIDAT] — Write code for data platform with object-oriented languages Java, Python, C#, & machine learning; design develop, maintain data models. May work from home office and anywhere in the US. (Salary Range: $115,400 - $163,000/year). Resume to: compassjobs@compass.com and note Job ID# in the subject line.

IT: The RealReal, Inc. seeks the following position in New York, NY. Telecommuting is permitted:
Senior Cyber Defense Engineer (91039884): Monitor the SIEM for suspicious events and anomalous activity. Master's+3 exp. Salary: $134,222 per year to $170,000 per year. Qualified applicants must send resumes to HR at peopleops@therealreal.com. Must refer to job title and job code.

IT: Expensify, Inc. has openings in New York, NY for Software Engineer(s) to dsgn, dvlp & implement SW for on-line expnse reports apps co. Travel to unanticipated locations req. $250,000 - $350,000 per yr base slry + competitive equity. Comp vary dep on location, job-related knowledge, skills, & exp. Slry ranges subj to change. Resumes to jobs@expensify.com & ref Job #E21.

Technical Leader
WarnerMedia Services, LLC is looking for a Technical Leader in New York, NY to enable media workflows using creative and pragmatic technology solutions. The salary range for this position is $166,400 - $204,100. To apply, e-mail resumes to HR Services (GMRI), GMRI@warnerbros.com, reference job #6516527.

IT: Blend Labs, Inc. has an opening for a Security Operations Engineer in New York, NY - position eligible for telecommute. $154k-$180k/yr. Email resumes to Attn: Sarah (Job Code #SOE) at resumes@blend.com.

Investment Manager (Orion Resource Partners (USA) LP) (New York, NY): Engage in the origination, valuation, and execution of financing solutions to metals and mining companies across the base, bulk, and precious metals, and industrial minerals sectors. Must possess a Bachelor's degree or foreign equivalent in Finance, Business Administration, or a closely related field & 3 year of professional experience pertaining to mining operations and a minimum of 3 years of experience in investment banking or investment management. 20% of the time spent traveling, which could be anywhere globally but with a focus on the Americas. Destination and frequency of travel impossible to predict. $223,000-$235,000. Send resumes via e-mail to mailto:lnissan@orionrp.com, or by mail to Orion Resource Partners (USA) LP Attn: HR, Orion Resource Partners (USA) LP, 7 Bryant Park, 1045 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10018.

Investment Associate needed by Tikehau Star Infra Partners, LLC (formerly Star America Infrastructure Partners, LLC) in New York, NY. Lead aspects of and assist in other aspects of the pursuit and acquisition of investment opportunities as a junior member of the deal team. Rate of pay: $140,400 to $190,000 per year. To apply, send resume to Claudia Gibson at cgibson@tikehaucapital.com. Please refer to Job code MENQ-N

Java Developer positions (Future US, Inc.; NY, NY). Develop product features w/ minimal supervision. Analyze req'ts & dev't SW solutions. Position is fully remote & may be performed from anywhere in the U.S. Salary range is $86,000/year - $100,000/year, depending upon qualifications. Send resume to jess.gates@futurenet.com, & indicate you are applying for the Java Developer (SN) opening.

Legal: Partner w/ Kirkland & Ellis LLP (NY, NY). Work w/in the Investment Funds practice grp, representing private fund sponsors & investors in the structuring, formation, & operation of private investment funds. Reqs JD or LLM degree, or foreign equiv. Reqs admission to the NY state bar. Reqs 5 yrs exp as an attorney advising on investment funds matters. Exp must incl: Advising sponsors & institutions in open-ended & closed-ended private investment funds, incl fund formation and secondary transactions relating to such fund structures; Advising on registered & private fund formation across various asset classes, incl. real estate, infrastructure, & agriculture; Advising on secondary transactions, fund restructures & recapitalizations; Advising on funds-related IPOs & secondary capital raisings; Advising on distressed fund work-outs & activist investor matters; & advising fund managers, sponsors, & investors on regulatory matters. Base hiring salary: $192,000 / yr. Resumes to KEResumes@kirkland.com, use job ref. code # MB032023.

LEGAL
Senior Manager, Legal Managed Services, Discovery (Mult Pos), PricewaterhouseCoopers Advisory Services LLC, New York, NY. Slv crtcl bus & data prtctn-rel chllngs. Drive strat prgrms, data analytcs, innvtn, deals, cyber rslncy, respnse, & tchncl implmntn actvties. Req Bach's deg or foreign equiv in Bus Analytics, Mgmt Info Sys, Engg, Econ, Acct, Fin, Info Sys, or IT or rel + 6 yrs of rel wrk exp, of whch at least 5 yrs mst be post-bach's, prgssv rel wrk exp; OR a Master's deg or foreign equiv in Bus Analytics, Mgmt Info Sys, Engg, Econ, Acct, Fin, Info Sys, or IT or rel + 4 yrs rel wrk exp. 80% telecommtng permitted. Mst be able to commute to designated local office. Trvl up to 80% req. Salary $158,454 - $158,454/yr. Apply by email at US_PwC_Career_Recruitment@pwc.com
referencing Job Code NY3723.

Legal: Mid-level Associate (EIPAF Debt, Bankruptcy, and M&A Transactions) sought by White & Case LLP in New York, NY to advise and represent clients on complex Energy Infrastructure Project & Asset Finance transactions pertaining to investments in power plants, aircraft, ships, Liquified Natural Gas terminals, & IT infrastructure. Telecommuting may be permitted up to 2-3 days per week. When not telecommuting, must report to White & Case, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020. Salary: $345,000.00 - $415,000.00 Must be admitted to the New York State Bar. Email resume to lateralrecruiting@whitecase.com. Must specify Ad Code JGEK.

Senior Manager, Creative Operations needed by JAND, Inc. d/b/a Warby Parker in New York, NY to ensure efficient execution of assignments and provide solutions to daily project management, production, and print production challenges. The salary range for this position is $143,499 - $143,499. To apply, please email resume to Lisa Fazzolari, Director, People, at lisa.fazzolari@warbyparker.com. Refer to Job Number: 5927040.

Management: Kind Management Inc. — Manager, Integration & Supply Chain Management — New York, NY. Oversee strategy, technical roadmap and administration of integration platforms and EDI for all Kind Enterprise system Landscape. Salary range: $138,590 to $138,590 p/y. Apply to: www.kindsnacks.com/careers

Help Wanted 2600

MANAGER
Application Development Manager (Accenture LLP; New York, NY): Manage project execution to ensure adherence to budget, schedule, and scope. Must have willingness and ability to travel domestically approximately 80% of the time to meet client needs. Multiple Positions Available. For complete job description, list of requirements, and to apply, go to: www.accenture.com/us-en/careers (Job# R00154105). Pursuant to New York City Human Rights Law, the offered wage for this role is $139,693.00 per year. Equal Opportunity Employer Minorities/Women/Vets/Disabled.

Manager, Delivering Deal Value (Mult Pos), PricewaterhouseCoopers Advisory Services LLC, New York, NY. Asst clnts achv max value on thr deal trnsctn by solving trnsfrmtnl & cmplx chllngs thru oprtnl aspcts of a trnsctn, pre & post-cmpltn. Req Bach's deg or foreign equiv in Acct, Bus Admin, Fin or rel + 4 yrs rel wrk exp. 80% telecommtng prmttd. Mst be able to commute to designtd local office. Trvl up to 80% req. Salary $135,000 - $135,000/yr. Apply by email at US_PwC_Career_Recruitment@pwc.com
referencing Job Code NY3720.

Manager, Data Processing Engineering sought by Foursquare Labs, Inc. in New York, NY to build intelligent distributed systems to harness large quantities of data using Hadoop, Hive, Scalding, & Spark. Position allows for telecommuting from anywhere in the U.S. Salary: $157,477.00 - $232,750.00. Please submit resume online at: https://foursquare.com/careers or email resume to recruiting@foursquare.com Please specify ad code SAAP.

Market Research Analyst, F/T, Master Degree in Economics, Business or Related. Mail resume to: Asstra NY, Inc. 67 New Dorp Plaza N, Staten Island, New York 10306

Director, Marketing Performance and Analytics (Estee Lauder Co Inc., NY, NY): Create data-driven mktg strategies & tactics to drive qualified traffic, engagement, & conversion across the distribution ecosystem of stores, e-commerce platform, & B & M envrmts. Bach deg in Integrated Mktg, Mktg Analytics, Economics, or equiv & 2 yrs performing in Mktg or rltd position. Exp must incl direct to consumer optimization from extrapolation to modeling to analytics to insights to action; Creating direct response prgms for both digital & direct mail campaigns; & Enhancing customer segmentation & targeting capabilities through partnership w/ the data insights team using predictive churn models. $113,500-$195,000/yr. Resumes to: elcjobs@estee.com, reference: AK23.

Sales & Marketing Analyst sought by J L & Company Limited in New York, NY to define, animate & support commercial strategy adapted to the Americas to support growth. Minimum of Bachelor's degree or foreign equiv in Marketing, Communications, Business Administration, or rltd + 2.5 yrs exp in job offered or rltd required. Interested candidates apply by mail to David Berrios; 800 Madison Ave, New York, NY 10065. Ref job code: 00005 ($104k to $114k)

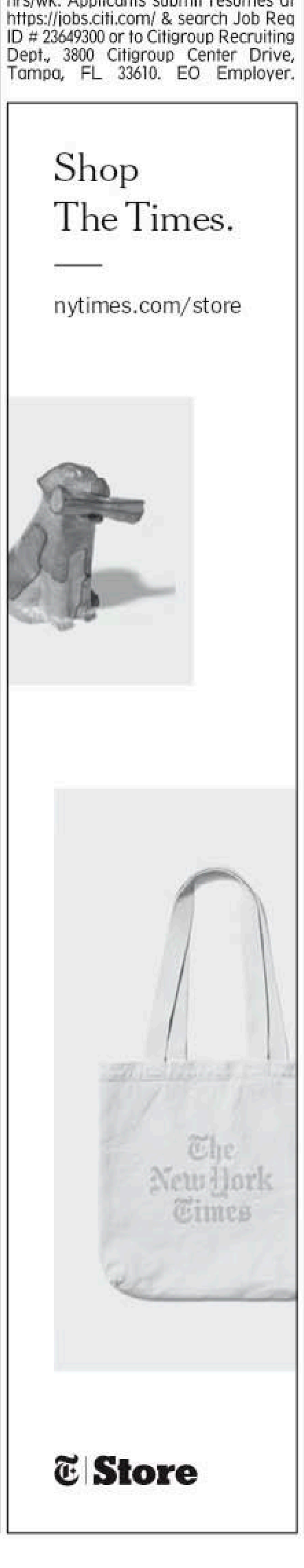
Marketing/Business Analyst (NY,NY): Perform market research, analysis of import & distribution to determine potential sales of products services using software. Job location at: 59 Great Jones St, NY, NY 10012. Mail resume to: Yamaya USA Inc, 3420 Kashiwa St, Torrance, CA 90505

Anesthesiologist (full time) sought by Montefiore Medical Center. All worksites in Bronx County, NY. ($400,000-420,000/yr) CVs to Leticia Roland at 111 East 210th St, Bronx, NY 10467.

MRI TECHNICIAN
Help Wanted, Queens, Full-time, MRI Technician, Minimum 3 years of experience in both Stand-up and GE
dmimaspethrecords@gmail.com

Model/Anlys/Valid Sr Officer I for Citibank, N.A. (Long Island City, NY) Review & validate Consumer Valuation models for Retail Services & global fraud models. REQS: Bach degree, or frgn equiv, in Econ, Stats, Math, Physcs, Engin, Comp Sci, or rltd fld & 9 yrs of prgssve, post-bach exp as Mdel Risk Mger, Mdel Validatr, Mdel Developer, Mdel/Anlys/Valid Sr Mger, Mdel/Anlys/Valid Oficr, or rltd posit involv mdel reviw & valid within the fincial serv indtry. Altvely, employer will acept a Master's in the stated flds & 7 yrs of the specifd exp.7 yrs of exp must incld: Aply technel & practcl knldge of mdelig technqs (linear regresion mdels, genralzed lnear mdels, logstc regrsion, clasifictn & regrsion decsin tree mdels & mchne lerning technqs); SAS & SAS Guide stats sftwre; 4GL, SAS, & SQL prgraming languags; Mdel risk mngement icl mdel develmnt, implmtation, valid & mdel usge; & Intrprting mdel perfrmnce tsting reslts & challeging mdel devlper on the mdel devel prcess. Salary range: $205,582.28 to $245,252.50/yr; 40 hrs/wk. Applicants submit resumes at https://jobs.citi.com/ & search Job Req ID # 23648264 or to Citigroup Recruiting Dept., 3800 Citigroup Center Drive, Tampa, FL 33610. EO Employer.

Model/Anlys/Valid Group Manager for Citibank, N.A. (New York, NY) Lead modelers in developing statistical models for Citibank's retail & small business banking portfolios, including: CCAR Model Development & Revalidation; CECL Model Development & Model Performance Enhancement; IFRS 9 Methodology R&D & Model Development; & Delinquency Forecast Model Development. REQS: Master's degree, or frgn equiv, in Econmcs, Financial Engin, Math Financ or clsly rltd quant fld & 3 yrs of exper as a Quantv Financl Anlyst, Model Valdtn profssnl or smlr postn perfrmng quant anlys, ststcl mdlng, loss frcstng, loan loss resrv modlng, & ecnmtrc modlng w/in a financl servs instn. 3 yrs of exper must incld: Dvlpng risk anlytcs, ecnmtrc modls, & ststcl mdls; Utlzng ststcl technqs incldng logstc regrssn, linear regrssn, non-linr regrssn, decsn tree, hypths tstng, survl anlys, time ser-s/forcstng & clstrng anlys; Prgrmng in Python, SQL & Mcrsft Offc; & Dvlpng Crdt Risk Modls, incldng CCAR/DFAST. Salary range: $177,000 to $226,000/yr; 40 hrs/wk. Applicants submit resumes at https://jobs.citi.com/ & search Job Req ID # 23649300 or to Citigroup Recruiting Dept., 3800 Citigroup Center Drive, Tampa, FL 33610. EO Employer.



Help Wanted 2600

MULTIPLE POSITIONS
Uber Technologies, Inc. has multiple positions (various levels/types) open in New York, NY for the following. Some positions may telecommute from home. To apply refer to Job ID & email resume to:
resumes_uberus@uber.com. Applied Scientist (Job ID: 6394294) Leverage data to perform intensive analysis across all areas of business to drive product development. $149,000 - $182,000/yr. Product Specialist (Job ID: 6653781) Assist in setting clear goals and developing a product roadmap and executing a go-to-market strategy. $129000 - $157000/yr. Territory Operations Lead (Job ID: 6681284) Analyze driver and rider metrics to understand driver behavior and areas for improvement in driver communication, sign-up, and incentive programs. Travel required 30%. $180000 - $220000/yr. Strategic Operations Specialist (Job ID: 6383098) Analyze driver and rider metrics to understand driver behavior and areas for improvement in driver communication, sign-up, and incentive programs. $119000 - $146000/yr. Senior Director, Head of Global Strategy & Planning (Job ID: 6404484) Identify areas of investment for the business, which will influence marketing spend, headcount allocation and organizational effort in those areas. Travel required 20% international and domestic. $248581 - $279000/yr. Data Scientist (Job ID: 6411702) Leverage data to perform intensive analysis across all areas of business to drive product development. $124000 - $137000/yr. Partner Engineer (Job ID: 6404693) Create and launch development programs that train employees on how to use certain technologies and products. $146000 - $178000/yr. Applied Scientist (Job ID: 6952779) Leverage data to perform intensive analysis across all areas of business to drive product development. $149000.00 - $182000.00/yr. Regional Operations Specialist (Job ID: 6621718) Analyze driver and rider metrics to understand driver behavior and areas for improvement in driver communication, sign-up, and incentive programs. $119000 - $146000/yr. Data Scientist (Job ID: 6671761) Leverage data to perform intensive analysis across all areas of business to drive product development.$149000 - $182000/yr. Recruiter (Job ID: 6610154) Assist with recruiting processes including interviewing, talent sourcing, preparation of recruitment reports, and partnership development. $90,000 - $110,650/yr. Senior Technical Sourcer (Job ID: 6454083) Communicate with necessary stakeholders to avoid bottlenecks. $115000.00 - $140000.00/yr. Technical Program Specialist (Job ID: 6137073) Create and launch development programs that train employees on how to use certain technologies and products. Travel required 15%. $171000 - $218000/yr. Strategic Operations Manager (Job ID: 6474647) Analyze driver and rider metrics to understand driver behavior and areas for improvement in driver communication, sign-up, and incentive programs. $98000 - $120000/yr. Senior Program Specialist (Job ID: 6440040) Assist in creating Business Intelligence reports through analytics, business communication and presentation, and problem-solving. $180000 - $220000/yr. Engineering Manager (Job ID: 6592953) Collaborate with program and platform teams to develop technical roadmap. Plan and execute projects. $207000 - $253000/yr. Applied Scientist (Job ID: 6846228) Leverage data to perform intensive analysis across all areas of business to drive product development. $149000 - $182000/yr. Data Scientist (Job ID: 5996095) Leverage data to perform intensive analysis across all areas of business to drive product development. $140000.00 - $172000.00/yr. Global Program Manager (Job ID: 6320613) Assist in creating Business Intelligence reports through analytics, business communication and presentation, and problem-solving. $172307 - $187000/yr. Data Scientist (Job ID: 6418634) Leverage data to perform intensive analysis across all areas of business to drive product development. $149000 - $182000/yr. Territory Operations Specialist (Job ID: 6491091) Support strategic decision making processes through analytics, data driven approaches, and an operational mindset. $98000.00 - $120000.00/yr. Membership Strategy Specialist (Job ID: 6693660) Assist in setting clear goals and developing a product roadmap and executing a go-to-market strategy. Drive innovation, definition, deliverables planning and design of campaigns, products and product features to deliver against team and company goals. $119000 - $146000/yr. Sr Program Specialist (Job ID: 6408672) Assist in creating Business Intelligence reports through analytics, business communication and presentation, and problem-solving. 20% Domestic travel required. $174000.00 - $213000.00/yr. Data Scientist (Job ID: 6480799) Leverage data to perform intensive analysis across all areas of business to drive product development. $140000 - $172000/yr. Strategy and Planning Manager (Job ID: 6379661) Support strategic decision making processes through analytics, data driven approaches, and an operational mindset. Domestic or International Travel required 15%. $180000 - $220000/yr. Sales Operations Manager (Job ID: 6173388) Work closely with the AMER, APAC, EMEA and LATAM Sales leaders to develop and execute a strategy roadmap for the sales incentive compensation process that is aligned with global business strategy and industry best-practices. Travel required: 20% throughout the US and internationally. $199326.00 - $220000.00/yr. Data Analyst (Job ID: 6579483) Build framework for analysis behind company-wide decisions relating to operations, process, and optimization. $108000 - $132000/yr. Data Scientist (Job ID: 6379499) Leverage data to perform intensive analysis across all areas of business to drive product development. $140000 - $172000/yr. Data Analyst (Job ID: 6216958) Build framework for analysis behind company-wide decisions relating to operations, process, and optimization. $133000 - $163000/yr.

NANNY to Provide day-to-day care for children, preparing meals, organizing activities, maintaining logs for the parents, light laundry, etc. Mon-Fri. 40hrs/wk. Mail resume to Caio Burger Ribeiro, 155 East 91st Street, Apt 5AB, New york, NY, 10128.

OIL ANALYST
Glencore Ltd (NY, NY) Prvde advncd anlyticl outlk to Crude Oil & Prdcts Trdng dsks by emplyng stat & math skills & knwldge of oil fndmntls. Reqs Bach in Engnrgn, Comp Sci, or Math, Econ, rltd quant fld or frgn equiv + 1yr exp prvdng anlytcs spprt for trdng dsks w/exprse to derivatves trdng mrkts. Exp must incl: 1yr exp coding w/VBA/Python; 1yr exp w/databse mgmt sys, like SQL Srvr; 1 yr exp buildng cmplx stat pricing mdls for enrgy futres & options mkts; 1 yr dev exp acrss key langs/tools incldg Python, R, PowerBI, Tableau; & Demotrstd understanding of physcl oil mkts & relatnshp to fincl instrmnts. Pay Rnge: $120,000 - $135,000/year. CV to Glencore, Attn: M.Magnano, 330 Madison Ave, NY, NY 10017 or email
jobpostings@glencore-us.com
Ref: KA1

Orthopedic Surgeon (full time) sought by Montefiore Medical Center. All worksites in Bronx County, NY. ($405,000-425,000/yr) CVs to Leticia Roland at 111 East 210th St, Bronx, NY 10467.

Palantir Technologies, Inc. seeks Forward Deployed Engineer (1222) in New York, New York. Modify existing software to improve performance. Domestic travel required. Salary range $225,000 - $245,000/yr. Mail resume to: Palantir, Attn: Meral Tahir, 1200 17th St., Ste. 1500, Denver CO 80202. Must refrnc. Job Title/# when applying. EOE.

Plumbing/Fire Protection Engineer (New York, NY): Dsgn Plumbing, & Fire protection systems for all building types; analyze building codes, prep detailed drawings & perform all necessary calcs (Salary $100,984). Req's Bachelor's (or foreign equi. deg.) in Mech Engng or related w/ knowl of at least 6 of the technologies from the following list: AutoCAD, REVIT, Plumbing Design, Sprinkler Design, NYC plumbing code, NFPA. Apply HR, EP Engineering LLC, 110 William Street, 32nd Floor, New York, NY-10038.

Principal, Private Equity sought at Investcorp International, Inc. (New York, NY). Requirements: Bachelor's degree in Economics or related; Master of Business Administration degree from a highly regarded U.S. institution; 7 years of private equity investing experience including at least 2 years of Mergers & Acquisitions advisory experience (resulting in cumulative closed deal experience in excess of $30 billion); Experience serving on boards of private equity portfolio companies, and Knowledge of Microsoft Office products (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), FactSet and Capital IQ. Domestic travel 2-4 times/month; international travel 1-2 times/year; supervision of junior personnel Wages: $250,000 - $275,000. Contact Mayumi Chiu, Human Resources, 280 Park Avenue, New York, NY10017.

Help Wanted 2600

Principal Associate, Quantitative Analysis Market Risk — Capital One Services, LLC in New York, NY; Mult pos avail: Lead application of math & stat methods to collect, organize, interpret, & sum data in the course of implementation or validation of quant models to value & measure risk on a wide arrange of bus data (e.g. loans, deposits, investments, fixed income securities, mortgages, derivatives, etc.), & calc regulatory & econ capital. Wage offered $ 159,000 - $224,100/yr dep upon qualifications. To apply, visit https://capitalone.wd1.myworkday jobs.com/Capital_One and search "Principal Associate, Quantitative Analysis Market Risk" or "R165729".

Procurement Specialist - Locate, source & purchase building & cleaning supplies, locate contractors, vendors & staff for approximately 200 properties. Negotiate srvc contracts & price of cleaning & building supplies, locate personnel & subcontractors to srvc residential & commercial buildings, compare cost & obtain insurance policies for all properties. Bachelors - Business Administration, Hebrew fluency & proven negotiation skills req'd. Salary: $54,142/yr. Mail res to: Manouchehr Malekan, Malachite Group LTD, 48 E Old Country Rd Suite 203, Mineola, NY 11501.

Product Manager II positions (Turner Services, Inc.; NY, NY). Work closely w/ business stakeholders to define product strategy related to enhancing the overall user exp to gain new subscriptions, improve retention & provide company w/ a competitive advantage. Position based in NY, NY. May telecommute from anywhere in the U.S. Must be willing to travel 5% internationally & 5% domestically. Salary range is $116,002/yr - $161,000/yr, depending upon qualifications. Email resume to: GMRI@warnerbros.com. Ref: 6015013PMII1.

PRODUCT DESIGNER
Block, Inc. in New York, NY is seeking to fill the position of Product Designer, Square Appointments to work with UX researchers, product managers, and engineers to iterate on new features and user journeys related to reports and analytics. Telecommuting permitted. Rate of pay: $140,000.00 - $167,500.00 per year. To apply or for benefit inquiries, send resumes to
online-job-apply@squareup.com
Must reference job 21704.445.3

Production Coordinator needed: Send resume to Andy & Evan Industries, Inc. 4 Bryant Park, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10018. Job location is in New York, NY. Wage ranges from 63k-80k.

Business Development Specialist in NYC to asess local & int'l (specifically Eastern Europe, Caucuses region, Central Asia & Middle East) mrkt opps to dvlp a proactive & effective customer dvlpmnt strategy to drive new customer acquisition, lapsed customer re-engagement & cultivation of company's customers; communicate w/ clients on dvlpm strategy & related indiv objectives for each member of the branch. Will research & analyze jewelry industry dynamics, sourcing of gold, silver, diamonds, precious & semi-precious stones trends, identify industry trends to determine competitive differentiation opportunities resulting in a bus strategy that drives growth & profitability. Dvlp rel w/orgs & businesses w/in key mrkts that support & enhance PR efforts. Run & manage reports & analyze sales data for use in achieving strategic objectives. Int'l travel 1-2 times a year. Req: Bach in business admin or management + 1 yr exp in mrkt research & competitive intelligence to inform customer-driven product dvlpmt; use of analytical skills to analyze sales data for strategic planning & experience leading and critiquing business models and business case development. Salary $73K. Send resumes to Kaprielian Enterprises Inc: daniel@kaprielian.com

Vice President, Business Development @ Mastercard International Incorporated (Purchase, NY) F/T Spprt & hlp drve sales initiativs with B2B Ntwrks, corprtns, fnancl institutns & othr thrd prties on a glbal basis. Lead sales plan dsgns to incldе bsnss dvlpmnt, mrktng & prdct mngmnt actvties with custmrs, prspcts & intrnl Mastercard contcts to idntfy new bsnss opprtnties & prdct ideas. Pstn rqrs a Mstr's deg or frgn eqvlnt in Bsnss Admnstrtn, Ecnmcs, or rltd & 3 yrs of exp in job offrd, as a managr, or rltd. Altrntvly, emplyr wll accpt a Bchlr's deg & 6 yrs of prgrssvly rspnsble exp. Qulfyng exp mst incldе at lst 1 yr wth ech of the fllwng: B2B Networks; SMB accounting solutions; Payment and non-payment workings and value propositions; Enterprise sales for solutions; Planning, managing, organizing, and closing complex, competitive sales efforts; Strategic analysis and planning to identify solutions that increase revenue. Emplyr wll accpt any suitble combo of edu, trning, or exp. Current salary range is from $226,470 to $306,000. Ablty to wrk frm home offce exists. May live anywhre wthn the US. Send resume to Jack Hind Smith, Jack.HindSmith@mastercard.com,150 5th Ave., New York NY 10011. Reference MC25-2023.

Senior Manager sought by ExlService.com LLC (NY, NY) will perform analyses of structured & unstructured data to solve business problems using advanced statistical techniques & mathematical analyses. Min Reqs: Master's deg in statistics, economics, mathematics, or a related field & 6 mos of data analytics exp. Will also accept a Bach deg in statistics, economics, mathematics, or a related field & 2 yrs of data analytics exp. Must also have demonstrable knowledge of each of the following: (1) Python & (2) SQL. Telecommuting permitted from anywhere in the U.S. Will work at various & unanticipated worksites throughout the U.S. Salary Range: $98,862 - $100,000 /yr. Send resume & cover letter to us.careers@exlservice.com. Must cite job title & code 2025 in response. EXL reqs all employees to be vaccinated for COVID-19 & show proof of vaccination. EXL will provide reasonable accommodation to those individuals who are unable to be vaccinated consistent with federal, state, & local law.

Senior Manager, Digital Communications (ELC Management LLC, NY, NY): Lead global digital strategy for social impact & sustainability initiatives. Reqs a Bach deg in Communications, Public Relations, Int'l Affairs or rltd field or foreign equiv & 1 yr exp in Public Relations, Digital Communications or rltd Occupation performing Digital/social strategy dsgn & execution incl Digital/social campaign measurement, analysis, & optimization; Conducting campaign toolkit dvlpmt for brands, regions & functions; Performing risk mitigation social/digital strategy dsgn & implmtn; & Working in Digital mktg, Mktg communications, Crisis mgmt, Creative production, Website dvlpmt, Digital fundraising, Influencer mktg, ESG reporting communications, & Employee communications. $96,500 - $159,000/yr. Resumes to: elcjobs@estee.com, reference: AC23.

Market Research Analyst (Bronx, NY) resp for user systematically gathering, recording & tabulating data concerning the sale of premium Italian food ingredients in the US mkt; Devise & dvlp procedures for implmtg the inventory of premium Italian food ingredients to be sold in the US mkt; Provide mktg analysis & research services regarding the import of premium Italian food ingredients; Research competitors, prices, & distribution channels; Dvlp recommendations to increase the co.'s visibility & position in the US import-export marketplace. Reqmts: Bach deg in Food & Beverage Studies or Gastronomic Science or Mktg, 30 mos exp as mkt research analyst. Exp in mktg or business dvlpmt in food industry. Yrly salary $73,000. Mail resume to: Gustiamo INC., Attn: Beatrice Ughi, General Mgr, 1715 West Farms Rd, Bronx, NY, 10460.

Manager, Global Transformation Solutions (ELC Beauty LLC, Long Island City, NY): Collab & consult w/ internal client groups to understand complex global/regional business needs, performing analysis & recommending dsgn solutions & documenting reqmts. Bach deg or foreign equiv & 2 yrs exp in HR business systems analysis. Exp must incl working w/ Salesforce Service & Community Cloud; Working in multiple systems across HR, Legal & IT working in Agile & continuous improvement incl Oracle EBS, Taleo, Ariba, & ForgeRock; Working in or establishing a Shared Services envrmt; Translating user reqmts to detailed technical reqmts & eventually to fulfill end user solutions; & Utilizing UI/UX Dsgn. $82,500-$135,500/yr. Resumes to: elcjobs@estee.com, reference: ZS23.

Vice President, Operations (Brooklyn, NY) Position is charged with executive and managerial oversight for company's operations. Will direct/oversee projects and manage a staff of 9. Requires a bachelor's degree or foreign equivalent in business administration, management or related with 2 years in the job or as an Operations Manager, Field Manager, or related with experience in energy analysis/consulting solutions, project management, utility software and demand management, photometric concepts and units, and financial management and budgeting. 40% travel required. Salary: $121,500/year. Mail resumes: HR, EDOE, Inc. d/b/a Orange Energizing Solutions, 55 9th Street, Unit A2, Brooklyn, NY 11215.

Help Wanted 2600

Assistant Project Manager, Astoria, NY - Responsible for planning, sched'g, conducting, & coord'g all phases of dsgn work in installation & operations of public & commercial bldg & infrastructure projects, as well as providing assistance & technical specs to Project Mgrs (PM) & Advanced Assistant PM in prep'g status/progress/technical reports for internal & external review. Must ensure proper structural engg techniques & processes are employed to the dsgn & completion of construction projects. Responsibilities incl: perform inspection of construction bldg projects; review dvlpmt dsgn, permits, construction drawings, & traffic control plans to ensure compliance w/ local city codes, regs, ordinances, dsgn criteria, std engg specs, methods, & other plans; review & prep dvlpmt agreements & dedications; work w/ engineers, architects, & planners to resolve dsgn rltd issues; & review & maintain records of drawings & infrastructure blueprints. M-F, 9-5. $110,000-$120,000/yr. Bach deg in Construction Engg (incl. Civil Engg & Mechanical Engg) or Construction/Project Mgmt, & 24 mos exp in position offd or as an Engineer (incl. Civil & Mechanical) or Construction/Project Mgr for urban Infrastructure/public/commercial-/residential construction projects, or any suitable combo of education, training, or exp. Please mail resume to Ms. Alexa Turck, HR Manager, Mega Contracting Group LLC, 48-02 25th Ave, Ste 400, Astoria, NY 11103

Director, Solutions Architecture at Montefiore Health System Inc. (Elmsford, NY). Act as Subject matter expert on all solution rel deliverables, tasks, activities & dev of integration toolsets & practices for rltd ERP solution. Req: Bach deg or foreign equiv in Info Systems Mgmt, Bus Admin or a rel field & 5 yrs of exp in Managing others & ERP Systems. Exp must incl: Product/Staff/Client/Stakeholder/Issue/Project/Solution Mgmt; Utilizing Infor, SAP, EPIC, Meditech, MedMetrix, Strata, Syntellis, GHX, HealthPay24, Cardinal, & Eagle. Salary range: $236,156.31-$236,156.31. Resumes to Montefiore Health System, Inc, Attn: S. Kalish, 3 Odell Plz, Yonkers, NY 10701

Associate, Blackstone Technology & Innovations (BXTi) sought by Blackstone Inc. in New York, NY to be responsible for analysis, design, implementation, testing, debugging, deployment of scalable data-driven analytics tools for Blackstone Liquids Direct Lending/Business Development Corporation & Hedge Fund Solutions platform. Minimum of Bachelor's degree or foreign equiv in Electrical Engg, Computer Engg, or a rltd + 2 yrs exp in job offered or rltd required. Interested candidates send resume via email to HR-JobInquiries@Blackstone.com. Ref job code: 27536 ($90k to $160k)

Associate, Data Science Management sought by Blackstone Inc. in New York, NY to accelerate data-driven evolution within Blackstone by using advanced analytics to evaluate live private equity deals, work w/ portfolio company management teams to drive business value & work w/ alternative datasets to curate novel insights. Minimum of Bachelor's degree or foreign equiv in Data Science, Data Analytics, or rltd + 2 yrs exp in job offered or rltd required. Interested candidates send resume via email to HR-JobInquiries@Blackstone.com. Ref job code: 27497 ($140k to $150k)

SR. BRAND MNGR., NY, NY. Oversee devel./execut. of product strategy for new brand launches; define busn. plan to deliver category/brand objs.; manage innovtn. pipeline; manage brand projects focused on innov. & merchsng; monitor prodtn. timelines & ensure that launches are executed on time & w/i budget. Req. Bach. (or equiv.) in Busn. Mgmt., Brand Mgmt., or rel., + 2 yrs. exp. in job offd or rel., incl. 2 yrs. exp. in brand mktg. or brand mgmt. $126K/yr. - $160K/yr. Apply online, w/ resume/CV, to Maesa LLC, https://maesa.com/careers/?gh_jid=6653923002.

Senior Airport Planner (NYC) sought by DY Consulting Engineers, P.C., with a Master's Degree in Community Planning or closely related field. Salary is $90,000 per year. Please send resumes to: Attn: Dennis Yap, 40 Wall Street, Suite 500, New York, NY 10005

Project Manager (New Hudson Facades LLC, New York, NY): Begin w/ estimate & contrct, understd projct scope & meet w/ & lead mngrs to dvlp drawgs, contrct reqs & qlty procs; Maintn relations w/ Owner/rep, Gen Contractor, Architect & PMs of trades that impact wrk; Review, understnd & price scope items & ensure Change Order Requests submttd & approvd by GC; Dvlp, track & update projct schedule w/ Projct Planner & allocate dsgnrs & shop mfg to prioritz scope items for dsgn, eng, mockups, prodctn & instlltn activities; Mng prcss of mtl orderg & schedg w/ Purchasg Mngr for mtls, equip & sub-contracts, ensurg req met; Monitor instlltn of prodct to ensure schedule is maintnd; Mng closeout prcss to expedite release of retainage. Reqs exp w/: Proficient in MS Projct & Office Suite w/ strong Excel; Knowlg of constructn mgmt w/ strong emphasis on curtainwall; Knowlg of facade projcts from conceptl dsgn & budget prep thru projct closeout; Ablty to understnd & use metric systm; Exp w/ architect metal, wood, glass & stone form & functn; Knowlg of MS Projct, Inventor or Primavera P6 Sw. Reqs BS or frgn equiv in Constructn Mgmt, Eng, Supply Chain, Architr or rltd fld & 2 yrs of exp as Projct Mngr, Facade Projct Mngr or rltd occ. Domestic travel 50%. Salary: $66,726.00 - $125,000.00. Send c.v. to
nhfcareers@newhudsonfacades.com.

Project Manager wanted in NY, NY to plan, & coord. activities of client projects. Rev. proposal to determine time frame, funding limitations, procedures for accomplishing project, staffing reqs. & allotment of resources. Assess fees to the client, project scope & budget. Prep. reports. Prov. tech. advice & resolve problems. Coord. project activities w/ govt. agencies. Prov. due diligence, feasibility studies, dispute resolution & other advisory servs. Dsgn eval., participate in value engr. Interpret technical instructions. Use Microsoft Office Suite, CAD and other building modeling and design applications, project management, scheduling and estimating software. Use skills in project or engr. mgmt., cost estimating, data analysis. Interpret constr. drawings & engr. specs. Wrk w/ big data sets & perf. analysis to resolve complex constr. problems. Use knowldg of GMP & AIA payment forms. Bach's deg. in Civil Engr. & Engr. Mechanics or Engr. + 3 mos. Of exp. req. in job off. Or as Intern. Salary: $147,000/yr. Email resume to: SBI Consultants, Inc. at
careers@sbiconsultants.com

Project Engineers (Multiple Positions) - Plainview, NY Pln construction & control costs w/budget for NYC/NYS agencies. Revw spec to assess value- engineering to appropriate construction mthds. Liaise w/mgmt & communicate w/field teams & contractors. Update schedule & oversee RFP, RFI & submittals. Dvlp dsgn spec, quantities & cost of matrl's, equipmt or labor. Monitor progress & resrch revisions or solutions. Dvlp engg & statsc'l data, drawings, & reports using various app-s/s/ware. Coord qlty contrl & dvlp engg data. Req: Master's Deg in Civil/Construction Engineering or Engineering Mgmt, ECATTS Certification & 1 yr exp in construction projects, qlty control & safety, monitoring cost estimates & capital budgets for projects, researching & ensuring code compliance to local-/municipal, county, state & federal governing regulations. Use Primavera P6, Microsoft Project, Plan Swift. $107,000 to $110,000 per year. Resumes to Empire Control Abatement Inc., Attn: Pres, 206 Terminal Dr., Plainview, NY 11803.

Project Consultant ($98,113.60 / Yr - Std Corp Benefits Incl) - WSP USA Inc. (NY, NY): Utilize hydraulic modeling, climate change expertise, & dtaild knowl of computing & tech to assist corp & government clients w/ their water & climate change needs. Reqs: Bachelor's deg (or frgn equiv) in Civil Engg, Environmental Engg, or rltd engg field, & two (2) yrs of exp as a Civil Engineer, Environmental Engineer, or in a rltd engg pos. Internship & assistantship exp is accepted. Ref #7537. Email resumes to: Attn: Julia Savaneli - Ref #7537, Julia.Savaneli@wsp.com

Project Manager (New York, NY): Daily coordination w/ team members, owners, client reps, design consultants, subcontractors, inspection agencies, expeditors, etc. to ensure construction project timeline is managed through to completion. Salary: $165,000/yr. Reqs: Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering /foreign equiv. + 12 mths exp in position/Project Manager/Project Engineer/or related position. Mail CV to Westbuilt Construction Managers, 31 E. 32nd St, 10th Fl, New York, NY 10016. Attn: M. Galway, Principal.

Psychiatrist (full time) sought by Montefiore Medical Center. All worksites in Bronx and Westchester Counties, NY. ($210,000-225,000/yr) CVs to Leticia Roland at 111 East 210th St, Bronx, NY 10467

Help Wanted 2600

PUBLIC RELATIONS
Furla USA, Inc., NY, NY
Dir. of Pub Rels & E-Commerce: Form, implmnt & direct PR & comms activities for Furla in the Americas; Dvlp digi PR strategies. Own customer, press & media rels & lead the omni channel strats, providing brand ldrship & creative direction. Manage int/ext stakeholders, PR agencies in PR campaign dsgn, mrchndising, comms, branding & e-commerce actvties, incl media engmnts. Manage PR budgets & KPIs. Reqs: Bach deg in public relations, comm, or rltd, + 5 yrs progressively respsbl, post-bach exp in job offered or closely rltd mrktng, PR or comms mgmt role w/in the fashion or apparel ind. Also reqires 5 yrs exp mngng PR/comms efforts for fashion or apparel brand for EMEA markets; 5 yrs of exp in mngng paid srch, external PR agencies & budgets; 3 yrs of exp in mngng ecommerce w/in fashion or apparel ind for both retail & wholesale. Applicants must have knowl of SalesForce Commerce Cloud; Adobe Photoshop & Dsgn; Google Analytics; MSFT Dynamics; ClickSense; MAPP CRM; RHIZO Tron. Applicants must also be willing to trvl domestically up to 8% & internationally up to 12% of the work sched.
Salary range: $198,661-$200k. Send resumes to: Furla, Attn: Alex Tull, Head of HR, 530 7th Ave, Floor M1, NY, NY 10018.

Quant Analyst - New York, NY. Develop a variety of cutting-edge, quantitative tools to enhance JPMC's investment process. Sal. range: $145,000 - $200,000 per year. For reqs & to apply, visit https://careers.jpmorgan.com & apply to job #:210412538. EOE, AAE, M/F/D/V. JPMorgan Chase & Co. All rights reserved.
www.jpmorganchase.com.

Quantitative Strategist (Ergoteles, LLC; New York, NY). Apply mathematical and statistical techniques to create quantitative and computer-based financial models, develop proprietary trading strategies, and independently architect and implement analytic and technical solutions for increased automation and efficiency. Research analytical and operational data infrastructure for medium and high-frequency proprietary equities trading strategies. Minimum Requirements include: Master's degree in Computational Science, Math, Finance, or a closely-related quantitative field. Four years of experience as a Quantitative Analyst/Researcher for a financial institution implementing strategies and tools. Experience must include using statistical tools to analyze and model profit and loss of securitized products (CMBS, RMBS, ABS) using Python and R, and developing and improving backtest platforms for risk models and developing systematic investment strategies across different asset classes including equities and credit. Salary range is $80,246 to $200,000. CVs to
jobs2023@ergotelescapital.com
ref # QS23001.

Quantitative Researcher (New York, NY): Perform quantitative financial research and analysis. Design and implement statistical arbitrage financial trading strategies, including idea generation, strategy back-testing and analysis, portfolio construction, and trading execution. Develop financial portfolio risk models and monitor real time portfolio risk profiles. Work with data science and programming; optimization; statistical learning; quantitative research; and statistics. Req. Master's degr + 3 yrs of exp. Salary range: $175,000.00 - $225,000.00 per year. Email resume to HRRecruiting@bamfunds.com or mail resume to Hannah Ogren, Balyasny Asset Management, LP, 444 West Lake Street, 50th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606. Must Ref# AL13BAMNY. No phone calls.

Quantitative Specialist (Indexation Trading) sought by SG Americas Securities, LLC in New York, NY to propose improvements to the existing index maintenance process to make the process more reliable & automatic to reduce operational risk. Telecommuting may be permitted up to two days per week. When not telecommuting must report to SG Americas Securities, LLC, 245 Park Ave., New York, NY 10167. Salary: $104-275K per year. Email resume to: us - humn - recruitment@sgcib.com. Must specify Ad Code MSMS in the subject line.

Regulatory Risk Officer for Citibank, N.A. (New York, NY) Apply accounting & finance principles to perform credit/market risk analysis & RWA calculations. Reqs Master's or foreign equiv in Accountg, Bus Admin, Stats, Applied Math, Physics, Econ or related & 3 yrs of exp as Fin Analyst, FP&A/ BSM Analyst, Report Controller, Fin Mgr or related involv fin acctg, analys, data analytics & risk analys for a global fincl svcs institn. Alt, will accept Bachelor's in stated flds & 5 yrs of prgrssv post-bach exp. 3 yrs exp must incl Acctg & fin principles incl US GAAP; Banking structrs; Audit approach for transaction testing & verification. 1 yr must incl Pricing banking products; liquidity profile assessmt of securities incl LCR reporting; risk policy. Salary range: $175,240 to $182,500/yr; 40 hrs/wk. Applicants submit resumes at https://jobs.citi.com/ and search Job Req ID #23638367 or to Citigroup Recruiting Dept., 3800 Citigroup Center Drive, Tampa, FL 33610. EO Employer.

Scientist: Etsy, Inc. seeks a Senior Applied Scientist I in Brooklyn, NY to develop custom machine-learning models that can drive product vision & customer impact. Produce ML innovations in the areas of Ranking, Recommendations, Computer Vision, Natural Language Processing, Information Retrieval, & Computational Advertising to help improve the Etsy buyer/seller experience. Telecommuting (Remote work) is available for the position. SALARY RANGE: $164,000 - $192,000 per year. APPLICANTS: Email resume to apply@etsy.com Reference code #544610 when applying.

Secretary: Engel & Volkers Americas, Inc. is seeking an Executive Secretary at its New York, NY office. Job duties include Draft and manage all email correspondence, communications, and certain data entry projects on behalf of the President & CEO in English or German; Provide sophisticated calendar management; Research and provide reference materials for meetings and teleconferences that the President & CEO will attend; Coordinate the President & CEO's outreach activities in collaboration with the strategic initiatives team, including composing, editing and completing written communications from the President & CEO's office in English and German; Serve as the administrative liaison to and prepare and translate communication from the German based corporate affiliates and board members to English; Schedule weekly senior leadership team meetings and company events. Offered minimum and maximum salary is $81,340. Please mail resume and cover letter to: Engel & Volkers Americas, Inc., Attn. Danny White, 430 Park Ave, 11th FL, New York, NY 10022

SENIOR QUANTITATIVE RESEARCHERS
Multiple openings, at Jane Street Group, LLC (NY, NY). Indpndntly anlyze lrge datasets using a vrty of mchne learning tchnques, bld & tst mdls, create new trding strtgies & write code tht implmnts thm. Reqs a 3 or 4 yr Bach Deg in Math, Physcs, Engg, Comp Sci or a rltd scntfc or quant fld or frgn equiv, plus 2 yrs prog resp exp conducting quant rsrch in context of fin mkts. Exp must incl: 1 yr exp devlping sftwre in OCaml; 1 yr exp anlyzing & bldng mdls for fin asset prices in python and pandas; & 1 yr exp cntrbting to & mntning lrge prodtn codebase. Base salary: $250k-300k/yr. Base salary is 1 pt of JS ttl comp, incl ann discret bonus. CV to
Nyc - job - applications@janestreet.com
Ref SQR23.

SALES OPPORTUNITIES

Sales Opportunities 2670

SALES OPPORTUNITIES

SALES
Director FX Sales Americas, Commonwealth Bank of Australia, NYC, NY: Service/develop real money, hedge fund, private equity, corporate & central bank accts in Americas mkt w/ Relationship Mgmt team. Must be fluent in Spanish & French. 15% domestic & 15% int travel req'd. Telecommuting 2 days/wk. Salary: $270,000 - $322,000/yr. For complete job description, list of requirements, and to apply: https://cba.wd3.myworkdayjobs.com/CommBank_Careers
(Job ID: REQ189464)

Help Wanted 2600

Sr Associate w/ Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer US LLP (NY, NY). Work w/in the Dispute Resolution practice group, advisg clients on matters relatg to int'l arbitratn, the enfrcmt of arbitral awards, & cross-border commrcl litigatn involvg foreign sovereigns. Reqs a J.D., LL.M., or foreign equiv. Reqs Admissn to the NY state bar. Reqs at least 4 yrs of prior exp as an attorney in the dispute resolutn practice of a global law firm, focusg on int'l arbitrations & cross-border commrcl litigatn. 4 yrs of exp must incl: Supportg Partners & Sr Assocs in advisg clients on int'l commercial arbitration & complex multi-jurisdictional disputes; Rsrchg & dvlpg advice on legal matters involving commrcl & invstmt disputes under ICC & other institutnl rules, cross-border commrcl litigatn involvg foreign sovereigns,& the enfrcmt of arbitral awards; Servg as tribunal secretary in int'l arbitratn & supprtg arbitration proceedgs; Draftg briefs & other docs for arbitral tribunals & U.S. Federal Courts, legal memos, oral submissions, hearg presntatns, depositn & intrvw outlines, & doc productn reqsts & responses; Conductg legal rsrch & draftg legal memos on compliance matters invlvg econ sanctions, export & defense trade controls, the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act & U.S. anti-money laundering law. Salary range: $370,000 to $415,000. Res to Amy.Saulnier@freshfields.com; must ref 6836865 in subj line.

Senior Project Engineer. Research, design, develop, test, and supervise the manufacturing and installation of electrical equipment, components, or systems for commercial and industrial use. Provide complete management of project timelines and design activity. Assist preparation of accurate and complete proposals and engineering agreements. Produce electrical design elements consistent w/ specifications in accordance w/ project hours, scope & parameters. Produce electrical construction documents for permitting. Provide research design options. Execute QA/QC process. Project coordination in-house and outside sources. Timely consultation to manage schedules, deadlines, site surveys, punch lists, building codes and standards. Actively participate in post design consultation activities. Provide timely billing. Full-time, $90,000/year. Requires B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering, Power and Energy Systems or related field and entry level knowledge of building codes and standard, Engineering drafting standards, Electrical Engineering standards; understanding of construction process and interpretation of construction drawings; knowledge of Auto-Cad and Revit. Job located in New York, NY. Resume to: AMA Group HR (002), 825 Eighth Avenue, 18th Fl., New York, NY 10019.

SENIOR TRADING DESK OPERATIONS SPECIALISTS
Multiple openings, at Jane Street Group, LLC (NY, NY). Resp for coord w/ membrs of intrnl infrstrctre grps (Oprtns, Compliance, etc.) as well as extrnl parties regrdng issues such as montrng trading wndws, prprly bking trades, & reslvng breaks to ensure all trades are rflctd accurtly in all systms. Reqs 3 or 4 yr Bach deg in Math, Quant Fin, Comp Sci or clsly rel quant fld or frgn equiv plus 2 yrs exp as Trading Desk Operations Specialist or rel postn at a quant trading firm. Exp must incl: 2 yrs exp applyng knwldge of trading desk actvties incl operat'l issues & bking & reprtng of trades, montrng trade settlmnt, loctng stock loans, instrctng creatns & redmptns of ETF units, & recnclng postns btwn firm & extrnl parties; 2 yrs exp wrkng w/ various tchnlgies incl Excel, VBA, UNIX, Bash, PostgreSQL, & OCaml; & 2 yrs exp collctng mrkt info to pass thru to Traders, & montrng tchnlgy systms that facltatd trading of financl instrmnts acrss glbl mrkts. Base salary: $150k-225k/yr. Base salary is 1 pt of JS ttl comp, incl ann discret bonus. CV to Nyc - job - applications@janestreet.com, Ref. STDO23.

SENIOR PRODUCTION ENGINEERS
Multiple openings, at Jane Street Group, LLC (NY, NY). Resp for cntrlzng supp functs for the Jane Street tech grps by prvdng both live supp to rslv tech issues and work on SW prjcts dsgned to imprv supp infrstr on a rotnl basis. Reqs 3 or 4 yr Bach degree or frgn equiv plus min of 2 yrs of exp dvlpng and supprtng SW. Exp must incl 1 yr of each of the fllwng: prof exp using OCaml prgrmmng lang; exp mnging SW rls cycls and SW QA prcss; exp applyng knwldg of OCaml lang semantics and runtime sys; exp using Mercurial dist. versn cntrl sys; exp using async prgrmmng, typeful SW dsgn, and monadic pgrmmng; exp pgrmming on the Linux pltfrm, incl working w/ ntwrk prgrmmng and scrptng tools; and exp mntrng prod trdng sys, respdng to alerts, and prtcptng in on-call rot. Base salary: $175k-300k/yr. Base salary is 1 pt of JS ttl comp, incl ann discret bonus. CV to Nyc - job - applications@janestreet.com Ref. SPE23

SENIOR SOFTWARE ENGINEERS
Multiple openings, at Jane Street Group, LLC (New York, NY). Dvlp sftwre in OCaml as part of trading & oprtnl infrstrctre for prprietry trading co. Reqs 3 or 4 year Bach deg or frgn equiv in Info Tech, Comp Sci, Engg or rel quantitative fld plus min 2 yrs exp dvlping sftwre. Exp must incl: 1 yr profssnl exp using OCaml prog lang; Exp mnging sftwre release cycles & sftwre QA prcesses; Exp applying knwldge of OCaml lang semntcs & runtime systm; Exp using Mercurial dstrbtd versn cntrl systm; Exp using asynchrns prgrmming, typful sftwre dsgn, & monadic prgrmming; Exp prgrmming on Linux pltfrm, incl wrkng w/ ntwrk prgrmming & scrptng tools. Base salary: $200k-300k/yr. Base salary is 1 pt of JS ttl comp, incl ann discret bonus. CV to
Nyc - job - applications@janestreet.com, Ref. SSWE23

Senior Business Analyst (New York, NY): Compile & analyze data from internal & external sources to optimize business dev. efforts. Analyze operational & client data to help teams identify target client segments & demonstrate value proposition. Work w/ Product & Finance depts. to inform pricing & product strategy to retain market lead. Salary: $97,198.00/yr. Reqs: Master's degree in Business Analytics/foreign equiv. Mail CV to Globetax Services, Inc., One New York Plaza, 34th Fl., New York, NY 10004. Attn: J. Latham, HR Manager.

Sr Mgr, SW Eng — Comcast Cable Comm, LLC, New York, NY. Provide & revolutniz comprhnsve ad pltfrm for co publishrs, advertisrs, & media buyers; Reqs: Bach in CS, Eng or rel; 5 yr exp dev SW in Agile dev environ use Go, REST, & gRPC; delivr DBs use Schema dsgn, SQL, non-SQL, & Object relatnl mapping; & ensure quality of cloud apps use AWS & Kubernetes; 2 yr incl mentor SW engs as mgr or tech lead. Salary:$176,299-$195,000. Benefits: https://jobs.comcast.com/life-at-com cast/benefits. Apply to: Renu_Puril @comcast.com Ref Job ID# 2367

Snr. Director Brand Image (New York City) Qual cand Bach deg fine arts/graphic design; 3 yrs exp art director/creative director in high end fashion/beauty industry; 40 hr/wk; resp for creative direction for global advertising campaigns using photo art director and creative integration across all media channels; plan & execute social media campaigns & website designs worldwide. Send resume only: General Counsel, Tom Ford Retail, 595 Madison Ave, 18th Fl, NY, NY 10022. Salary range $143,000-150,000.

Sr. Legal Counsel (Loc: NY, NY). Develop strategies for eval. complex risk in business-centric ways. Req: Juris Doctor deg. & admit. NY Bar, + 3 yrs of legal exp. in corp. law at major firm. Telecomm. allowed. Pay: $96,262 - $180k. Apply to: K. Thompson, Talent Acqu. Mnger,
resumes@smartcontract.com
SmartContract, Inc.

Sr. Project Manager is sought by an Engineering Consulting Firm located in New York, NY. Min. Master's degree in Energy systems, energy engineering, mechanical engineering or closely related is required. Send resume to EME Consulting Engineering and Architecture Group LLC@ 550 7th Avenue, Floor 10, New York, NY 10018.

Sr. Principal Engineer, Cloud (News Corporate Services, Inc., New York, NY): Develop and support cloud solutions. Salary: $235,040/year. Resumes: HR, News Corporate Services, Inc., 1211 Ave of the Americas, New York, NY 10036.

Sr. Quality Engineer. Telecommuting from anywhere in US OK. New York, NY. BA/BS in CS, Comp Engg or rltd + 5 yrs exp. $140,005-$186,000/yr. Addepar, Inc., careers2@addepar.com.

nytimes.com/jobs

JOBS

To place your ad in print and online, call (212) 556-8034 or 1-800-238-4637; To post a job online, visit nytimes.com/jobs

Help Wanted 2600

Social Staff Editor
The NYT seeks Social Staff Editor (NY, NY) to promote articles, photographs and interactives to new audiences, and deepen our engagement with the existing ones. Bachelor's Degree in Creative Writing or similar discipline required. Minimum 5 years professional experience. Must have experience with External Audience Tools: Chartbeat, Google Trends, Social Flow, and Crowd Tangle. Must have experience creating a brand-awareness editorial strategy, creating conversations and storytelling on Instagram; Must have experience posting daily on social media accounts, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, and TikTok. Role holder is eligible to work from home on a hybrid basis with manager approval. SALARY: $105,308.84-$112,000 per year. Send resume with cover letter with salary requirements and reference code: 6173202. To apply: https://nytimes.wd5.myworkdayjobs.com/NYT/job/New-York-NY/Social-Staff-Editor_REQ-014451.
The New York Times
EOE

Software Engineer - New York, NY. Develop/engineer new & enhance existing quant modeling, optimization & execution software technology. Min reqs: Bachelor's Degree in Computer Sci, Computer Eng, Electrical Eng or related IT field + 1 yr of exper as a Software Developer with work exper using the follwng: structured & object-oriented progrmg incl Java and/or Python; relational databases incl query & manipulation of databases using SQL; UNIX/Linux operating systems incl shell scripting langs; web-based UIs incl React as a tool for creating UIs & visualization design & developmt; distributed systems & multi-threaded apps incl remote procedure & messaging protocols across networks; SDLC paradigms & methodolgs incl planning, tracking, version control (incl Git), dependency managmt, build, test & deploymt; analysis, debugging, automation & improvemt of software performance; testing & debugging software systems using jUnit. Must pass company's reqd skills assmt. Base salary range: $165-300k per year (does not include other forms of compensation or benefits). Email resume to
TS-Posting@twosigma.com
or mail to TS/HR Dept, Two Sigma Investments, 100 6 Ave, 16 Fl, NY, NY 10013. Ref Job ID #11853

Software Engineer Evangelist - Create content for dvlprs to build accessibility for those who learn & think differently. Dvlp & implmt community strategy to drive awareness & engage industry experts to strengthen accessibility dvlpmt. Attend, speak at & sponsor in-person/web, media & other outreach events to advocate for accessibility. Work w/ product, engg, & mktg teams to accelerate adoption of new accessibility stds. Write Engg Advocate Prgm Handbook. Work w/ Editorial team on writing guidelines. Frontend web codebase. Code w/ guidance to accomplish greater accessibility. Architect features reqg integration w/ new/existing backend services. Serve as co's public face for Global Accessibility tech community. Req: BA/BS Communications or closely rltd field + 1 yr exp s/ware engineer or closely rltd. NY, NY & occasional travel. Sal. $62,421-$120,000/yr. Send resume to Understood For All, careers@understood.org.

Lead System Software Engineer. Lead projects and processes in design/development/evaluation/test new/modified software program/software development procedures to verify functionality. Develop and monitor the bi-directional interface between MDLand and healthcare laboratories. Investigate and resolve EMR and iClinic program software, systems conformance, systems interface, and database problems. Solve compatibility issues. Work on quality standards and test procedures & daily maintenance. Salary: $115,000/year. 3 years of experience as Software Engineer or Software Development Engineer performing related duties. Proficiency in Big Data Technology, Software Architecture, and Linux System Administration required. Send resume to HR, MDLand International Corp, 185 Great Neck Rd., Suite 4J, Great Neck, NY 11021

Help Wanted 2600

Software Developer sought by Barclays Services Corp. (New York, NY) to dsgn, dvlp, build, modfy & spprt sclable Java entrprse mddlwre SW systms & apps usng J2EE, Spring & Hibernate to encapslte bus logic & DB accss. Must have min of Bach or frgn equiv Comp Sci, Comp Eng, Info Tech or clsly rltd fld & 5yr post-bacc, prgrss exp as SW Eng/Dev, Prgrmmr or clsly rltd occuptn. Will accpt Mastrs or frgn equiv in spcfd flds & 3yr exp in spcfd role as altrntv. Must have at least 3yr exp Desgn sclble Java entrprse mddlwr SW systms & apps using J2EE, Spring & Hibernate; Utlzng Javascript, HTML5, CSS & Angular/Flex to bld GUI for dsktp pltfrms; Dsgn & dvlpng DB schma & DB lvl objcts utlzng SQL srvr & Oracle to create DB strd procdrs, trggrs & SQL queries; Cnfgrng & mngng Weblogic & JBoss app srvrs to run Java/J2EE apps; Dvlpng & maintng batch prcesses usng Unix/Perl scrpts to imprv reliablty & implmnt srvr & app montrng; & Utlzng JMS to trnsfr data b/w ext apps and systms. Salary/Rate Min/yr $190,000; Salary Rate Max/yr $190,000; Inclds only base salary or base hrly rate. Does not incld other comp or benefits tht may be avail. 40 hr/wk. Apply at
https://barclays.taleo.net/careersection/2/moresearch.ftl & enter job #00282427. Barclays is EEO/AA.

Software: Etsy, Inc. seeks a Senior Software Engineer II, Machine Learning in Brooklyn, NY to use Python & other programming languages to develop ML Platform components & services. Work closely with data scientists to understand their needs & optimize the platform to help them achieve their goals. Telecommuting permitted. SALARY RANGE: $184,000 - $216,000 per year. APPLICANTS: Email resume to apply@etsy.com Reference code #555501 when applying.

Software: Luxoft USA — NY, NY needs a Software Developer (469) who will Application design, New code development, Development team management, Delivery and process quality control and Technical documentation and release notes preparation. Requires a BS CIS or Comp Sci and 2 yrs relevant exp. Salary $109,283/yr. Must be willing to travel/relocate. Refer to specific job # for consideration. Send resumes to LuxoftRIT@dxc.com.

Software: Luxoft USA — NY, NY needs a Software Developer (425) who will take part in Development and testing of the HOGAN banking applications. Requires a BS in Comp Sci or CIS and 5 yrs relevant exp. Will also accept an MS in Comp Sci or CIS and 3 yrs relevant exp. Must be willing to travel/relocate. Salary $157,477/yr. Refer to specific job # for consideration. Send resumes to LuxoftRIT@dxc.com.

SOFTWARE
Palantir Technologies, Inc. seeks Forward Deployed Engineer (1745) in New York, NY. Modify existing software to improve performance. Salary range $152,000 - $172,000/yr. Domestic travel required. Mail resume to: Palantir, Attn: Meral Tahir, 1200 17th Ave., Ste. 1500, Denver, CO 80202. Must refrnc. Job Title/# when applying. EOE.

Sftwr Solns Devlprs (New York, NY). Dsgn, dev, create, & modify sftwr solns for our proprietary data platform. Full- time telecommuting permitted from any loc in the US. Salary: $187,725- $200,000. Snd res to recruiting@mparticle.com or mParticle, Inc., Attn: Bori Gilchrist, Head of People, 99 Wall St, Ste 620 New York, NY 10005.

Data Statistician (NY, NY) Dsgn data analysis projects for customers & apply appropriate scientific techniques, process large amounts of data for statistical modeling, build statistical models, report & present statistical & non-statistical results. $135K-$150K/yr. Bach Deg in Statistics or rltd field. Mail cvr letter, resume, list refs to Attn: HR, Dataiku, Inc., 902 Broadway, Fl 8, NY, NY 10010. Ref: Job# DS-01 on all docs.

Help Wanted 2600

Strategy and Transactions (SaT) - EY Parthenon - Transaction Strategy and Execution (Deal Technology) (Manager) (Multiple Positions), Ernst & Young U.S. LLP, New York, NY. Serve as a Strategy and Transaction professional to prepare and execute mergers and acquisition plans to maximize synergies and financial benefits from transactions focusing on the technology functional area. Willingness and ability to travel up to 80%, may be national or international. Employer will accept any suitable combination of education, training, or experience. $185,005.00 per year. For complete job description, list of requirements, and to apply online, go to: ey.com/en_us/careers and click on "Careers - Job Search", then "Search Jobs" (Job # - 1414760).

Tax Manager, Customs & Trade (Mult Pos), PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, New York, NY. Advse clnts on thr local & overseas tax affairs in various ind. Req Bach's deg or foreign equiv in Acct, Bus Admin, Tax or rel + 5 yrs post-bach's, prgrssv rel wrk exp; OR Master's deg or foreign equiv in Acct, Bus Admin, Tax, or rel + 3 yrs rel wrk exp. 80% telecommtng permitted. Mst be able to commute to designtd local office. Trvl up to 80% req. Salary $165,000 - $165,000/yr. Apply by email at
US_PwC_Career_Recruitment@pwc.com
referencing Job Code NY3714.

Teacher Team Lead: Brooklyn Laboratory Charter School seeks Teacher Team Lead in Brooklyn, NY to organize weekly agendas. Send CV to mlyons@bklabprep.org.

Principal Database Engineer @ Mastercard (New York, NY) F/T Rspnsbl fr prfrmng dtbse sftwr instlltons, bldng & cnfgrng dtabses, instllng dtabse mntrng sftwr/dplyng dtabse mntrng, mntrng & bckng up dtabses, implmntng new vrsons of dtabse sftwr. Spprt clnt Oracle Dtabse implmntatn, cnfigratn as well as hlpng with the physcl dsgn, dvlpmnt, admnstrtn & optmiztn of real tme, hi volume, dtabse systms to meet clnt bsnss & tchncl rqrmnts. Pstn rqrs a Mstr's dgree, or frgn eqvlnt, in Infrmtn Systms, Cmptr Scnc or rltd & 2 yrs of exprnc in the job offrd or as a Prncpl Dtabse Engnr, or rltd. Altrntvly, emplyr wll accpt a Bchlr's dgree or frgn eqvalnt in Infrmtn Systms, Cmptr Scnc or rltd & 5 yrs of prgrssvly rspnsbl exprnc. Qlfyng exprnc mst incld at least 1 yr with ech of the fllwng: UNIX/LINUX, Oracle GoldenGate, Oracle Database Administration, UNIX ShellScripting, Oracle RAC Administration, RA, Exadata, ODAs, Database upgrades, migrations, Cloud, Engineering. Emplyr wll accpt any suitble combo of edu, trning, or exp. Rate of pay is $167,000 - 275,000 per year. Ablty to WFH exists. Mail resume to Gretchen Pepe, Gretchen.Pepe@mastercard.com @ Mastercard, 2200 Mastercard Blvd, O'Fallon, MO 63368. Ref MC7-2023.

Senior Automation Engineer I wanted by global entertainment Co. in NY, NY. Dvlp pipelines for continuous integration & delivery across Web, API, Mobile & OTT platforms. Create automation scripts for monitoring & operations. Define new technology directions to promote strong engg stds & efficiencies. Annual wage from $157,477.00-$170,000.00. Reqd: Master's Deg in Comp Sci, S/ware Engg, or closely rltd, & 1 yr of exp in job offd or as S/ware Engineer, or Bach deg in same fields + 5 yrs of progressive post-baccalaureate exp in the field which incl 1 yr of exp in job offd or as S/ware Engineer, or any other qualifying combo of education, training, or exp. Reqs 1 yr of exp in Java, CircleCi, AWS, & Docker. Exp gained before or after Master's deg is acceptable. Mail resumes to: Rainbow Media Holdings LLC dba AMC Networks, Faith Vann, 11 Penn Plaza, NY, NY 10001

TECHNOLOGY
Palantir Technologies, Inc. seeks Forward Deployed Engineer (1863) in New York, NY. Modify existing software to improve performance. Salary range $189,578 - $209,578/yr. Domestic travel required. Mail resume to: Palantir, Attn: Meral Tahir, 1200 17th Ave., Ste. 1500, Denver, CO 80202. Must refrnc. Job Title/# when applying. EOE.

Help Wanted 2600

TECHNOLOGY
Institutional Capital Network, Inc.
d/b/a iCapital
AVP Information Security
New York, NY

Responsibilities: Implement & Secure iCapital platform infrastructure including AWS, servers(EC2), databases, Saas Solutions etc. Investigate & support rollout security solutions to endpoints (laptops) including EDR (crowdstrike etc), DLP, Access management (BeyondTrust), Proofpoint etc.

Salary: $155,000 - $160,000/year

Requirements: Master's in Cybersecurity, Information Systems Security or related field & 2 yrs exp in job offered or 2 yrs exp SIEM (Security Information & Event Management). Exp must include 2 yrs each of following: open- source technologies or object-oriented/functional programming; writing code; numeric research framework such as Python/Pandas; AWS & infrastructure-as-code; IDS (Intrusion Detection System)/IPS (Intrusion Prevention System); Network Sensors; Email Security such as O365/Proofpoint; & Security Incident Responder. Experience may be gained concurrently. Send resume & cover letter:
talentacquisition@icapitalnetwork.com or Institutional Capital Network, Inc., c/o Talent Acquisition, 60 East 42nd Street, FL 26, NY, NY 10165

TECHNOLOGY
Deputy CTO: Develop/implement/manage company's technological strategies/resources to identify new industry technology. Must possess exp in overseeing development & implementation of technical strategies for global software development team or org; Distributed System, Consensus Algorithm, Smart Contract, Bitcoin, Ethereum, Django/REST full stack, MapReduce, Parallel Computing, blockchain Explorer consensus algorithm/scalability, Python, C/C++ & CSS. $203,674 to $235,040/year. Job in New York, NY. Apply at
https://boards.greenhouse.io/gettr or Mail resume/cover ltr to 3 Columbus Circ., 20F, NY, NY 10019.

Manager, Digital Education Technology & Innovation (ELC Management LLC., NY, NY): Partner closely w/ Global education team, US Director of Education, US Director of Special Events, & cross-functional teams to create & align on strategy for how to best leverage all technology & innovation in the field. 3 yrs exp in Education of Innovation & Technology. Full term of exp must incl dvlpg & launching digital prgms; implmtg a learning platform; launching a digital App; Training via in-store & virtual classrooms; & shaping training prgms specific to mkt & region. $82,500-$135,500/yr. Resumes to: elcjobs@estee.com, reference: CN23.

Technology Consulting, Digital and Emerging Technologies - Service Now (Manager) (Multiple Positions) (1423427), Ernst & Young U.S. LLP, New York, NY. Analyze technology, business, and other data processing problems to improve computer systems. Requires travel up to 80%, of which 20% may be international, to serve client needs. Employer will accept any suitable combination of education, training, or experience. $138,590 per year. For complete job description, list of requirements, and to apply online, go to: ey.com/en_us/careers and click on "Careers - Job Search", then "Search Jobs" (Job Number - 1423427).

Technology Risk Advisor - Technology Risk (Audit) - Financial Services Office (Manager) (Multiple Positions), Ernst & Young U.S. LLP, New York, NY. Analyze business, financial, and information systems and other data processing problems to implement and improve computer systems. Requires domestic and regional travel up to 80% to serve client needs. Employer will accept any suitable combination of education, training, or experience. $138,590.00 per year. For complete job description, list of requirements, and to apply online, go to: ey.com/en_us/careers and click on "Careers - Job Search", then "Search Jobs" (Job Number - 1417676).

Help Wanted 2600

Director, Global Cybersecurity Architecture & Engineering (ELC Management LLC, Inc, Long Island City, NY): Dsgn security reference architectures & associated security principles to support business projects, incl necessary integration points across ECR. Bach deg in Comp Sci, Electronic Engg, Cybersecurity or rltd field or foreign equiv & 5 yrs of progressively responsible exp as a Cybersecurity Prof'l, IT Security Engineer or rltd occupation architecting & engg security solutions. Exp must incl Utilizing & interpreting models to implmt co. policies & stds; Working in cybersecurity, assurance & audit stds/models/frameworks incl ISO27001, NIST, COBIT, DRII CBK, Six Sigma, ITIL, PCI, SOX, FDA, HIPAA, & PII; Completing technical security skills in multiple technology areas incl applics deployments, endpoints, data, infrastructure, cloud, DNS, PKI, Email, OS (Windows, MAC, *NIX), SDN, encryption, forensics, authentication, firewalls, proxies, identity & access control, BC/DR, remote access, & cryptography; Utilizing & migrating to 1 or more cloud technologies incl Microsoft Azure or AWS; Using Google Cloud Platform & Microsoft Office 365; Working w/ Executive Mgmt, Legal, Risk, 3rd-party, & IT teams; & Dvlpg & documenting security methods, stds, & guidelines. 35-50% travel reqd. $158,454 - $221,000/yr. Resumes to: elcjobs@estee.com, reference: NU23.

TECHNOLOGY
Komodo Health seeks Sr. Cloud Infrastructure Engineers in New York, NY to architect and implement platforms that will accelerate our engineering teams. $157,477 - $177,477/year. 100% Telecommuting permitted. Apply @ www.jobpostingtoday.com
Ref#92820

TECHNOLOGY: Apple Inc. has multiple positions available in New York, NY. Refer to Req# & email resume to jobadv@apple.com: Software Development Engineer - Data (REQ#8236663) Arctct & dvlp sftwr apps, tls, & srvcs for the Dta Eng pltfrm. $161,000.00 - $242,000.00/yr. Apple is an EOE/AA m/f/disability/vets.

TECHNOLOGY: Apple Inc. has multiple positions available in New York, NY. Refer to Req# & email resume to jobadv@apple.com: Software Development Engineer (REQ#5071631) Dvlp hghly rlbl, sclbl Jv srvr pltfrms wth an attntn to dtl. $130,000.00 - $196,500.00/yr. Apple is an EOE/AA m/f/disability/vets.

Jefferies LLC (NY, NY) seeks Senior VP, US Rates Trader to supprt mrkt makng US treasuries & asscted futures & dervates. Wrk w/ team in NY, London, & Asia to mnge desk rsk & drive revnues. Provde daily mkt color & partcpate in mktng efforts w/ clnts. Intract rglrly w/ institutnl clnts, corp, & buyside clnts & visitng them to discuss trade ideas in line w/ their stratgy & rsk appetite. Wrk w/ tchnlgy to imprve tchnlgy offrng & electronc tradng efforts & bld tradng stratgies for better excution both for intral use & better excution for clnts. Wrk w/ quantitatve anlysts to bld & improve prcng modls for fixd income prdcts. Wrk w/ tradng, economist, rsrch stratgy to dvlp trade ideas based on macroeconmc anlyss & montry policy views. Keep up to date q/ indstry rgltd cmplnce reqmts w/ respct to tradng & srvcng clnts. Reqs Mastrs or forgn equiv in Biz Admin, Economcs, Finance, or rltd & 6yrs of prgrssvly responsble exp in job offrd or rltd occupatn: utilizng exp w/ fixed income mkts & US treasry mrkts; pricng, excutng, & hedgng of US treasries & assoctd derivatves; dvlpng pricng & rsk modls; utilizng exp w/ mathematcal finance, probablty, & statistcs. Telecommutng &/or workng from home may be permssble pursuant to compny policies. When not telecommutng, must rprt to wrk site. Salary: $285,000/yr. E-mail res to apply@jefferies.com. Ref #211.

Help Wanted 2600

Trader for Citigroup Global Markets Inc. (NY, NY) Hedge credit & funding risk for the Equities X-Value Adjustment Trading desk. REQS: Mast degree, or frgn equiv, in Finance, Fincial Math, Business, Accounting or rltd fld & 3 yrs of exp as a Quantative Anlyst, Mdeling/Analys/Valid Sr. Anlyst, Structurer, Risk Oficer, or simlar posit performing Quantative, credit & market risk anlys, stats mdeling, & optimize of regulatory & econom capital within a fincial srvices institute. 3 yrs of exp must incld: Fincial & equity derivs pricing; Regulatory capital & fincial regulations, incld Basel III & Comprehensive Capital Anlys & Review; Data mngement using MS Excel & Python; & Quantative & math anlytics, incld fincial calc pertain to option pricing, martingales & simlar concepts; mdelling current & prjected fincia resources acording to current & future definitions; & Python mdelling. Salary range: $200,000 to $250,000/yr; 40 hrs/wk. Applicants submit resumes at https://jobs.citi.com/ & search Job Req ID #23651199 or to Citigroup Recruiting Dept., 3800 Citigroup Center Drive, Tampa, FL 33610. EO Employer.

TRADERS
Multiple openings, at Jane Street Group, LLC (NY, NY). Wrk as part of a team to seek out & trade on prcng inefficiencies, dvlp mdls, mange rsk, invstgte new prdcts, & push into new busnss areas. Reqs 3 or 4 yr Bach deg in Math, Physcs, Engg, Comp Sci, or a rel scientfc or quant fld or frgn equiv plus 1 yr exp as an assistnt trader or similar role. Exp must incl the fllwng: condctng trade entry, trade reprtng organzng & dsplyng mrkt data to facltate trade decsns; bck-tstng new trading strtgies & cndctng papr-trades on new trading strtgies; applyng knwldge of Excel, VBA and Bloomberg; & applyng knwldge of UNIX, Bash, OCaml, & PostgreSQL. Series 7 & Series 57 license req'd. Base salary: $250k-300k/yr. Base salary is 1 pt of JS ttl comp, incl ann discret bonus. CV to
Nyc-job-applications@janestreet.com, Ref. T23.

Value Chain Finance Executive Director for Senior Credit Analyst and Portfolio Manager position available with Cooperatieve Rabobank U.A. located in New York, NY. Position will be rendering credit decisions for Value Chain Finance North America at the highest level for business representatives, within a scope set by the Head of Value Chain Finance North America. Telecommuting permitted up to 60%. Range of Pay: $190,000 - $340,000. How to apply: please send resume via e-mail to Ellen Hirsch at fm.am.recruiters@rabobank.com referencing Req#: JR_00086335

VP: MSCI, INC. seeks VP Index Sales Specialist in NY, NY to facilitate high level mgmt contact incl dvlpng & maintaining relationships w/sr, decision-making contacts that will impact usage & spend levels for MSCI Index products. Req'mnts: Bachelor's or foreign equiv in Bus. Admin, Econ., Finance or rel. field & 5 yrs of progressively responsible exp in job offered or rel. occupation: utilizing customer relationship mgmt softw & exp w/client relationship mgmt in fin'l srvcs industry; working w/global equity & fixed income mrkts; utilizing expertise w/latest dvlpmnts in fin'l mrkts & regulation; utilizing exp w/Investment Mgmt Process incl liaising w/institutional asset managers; & utilizing exp w/index data licensing. 10% trvl req'd. Telecommuting &/or work from home may be permissible pursuant to company policies. When not telecommuting, must report to work site. In alternative employer will accept Master's in one of above-listed fields & 3 yrs of exp in above-listed skills. Offered salary is between $162,000-$185,000/yr. 40 hrs/wk. Pls email resume to aleta.peppler@msci.com Ref: VP42AD. EOE/D/V.

Help Wanted 2600

Vice President w/ Goldman Sachs & Co. LLC in New York, NY. Assess the econ, financial, political & social dynamics in countries where the Firm takes risk. Produce baseline macroecon forecasts used by the Firm for stress testing & budget planning purposes quarterly or more frequently on an as-needed basis. Reqs: Master's deg or Bach deg (U.S. or foreign equiv) in Econ, Fin, Internat'l Fin & Econ Policy, Public Policy, Public Admin, or a rel analytical field. 3 yrs of exp (w/ Master's deg) OR 5 yrs of exp (w/ Bach deg) in the job offered or in a rel role. Job Code: 6632440. Salary Range: The expected annual base salary for this New York, NY, US-based position is $176,000 - $260,000. In addition, you may be eligible for a discretionary bonus if you are an active employee as of fiscal year-end. Benefits: Goldman Sachs is committed to providing our people w/ valuable & competitive benefits & wellness offerings, as it is a core part of providing a strong overall employee experience. A summary of these offerings, which are generally available to active, non-temporary, full-time & part-time US employees who work at least 20 hrs per wk, can be found here: https://www.goldmansachs.com/careers/discover/2022-Benefits-Summary-US.pdf. QUALIFIED APPLICANTS: Apply at gs.com & click on "Careers." NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE. The Goldman Sachs Group, Inc., 2023. All rights reserved. Goldman Sachs is an equal employment/affirmative action employer Female/Minority/Disability/Veteran/Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity.

VP: BlackRock Financial Management, Inc. seeks VP, US Leveraged Finance, Bank Loans in NY, NY to work alongside sr portfolio mgrs responsible for $20bn+ of AUM, w/emphasis on open end funds, closed end funds, & other unconstrained mandates. Req's: Master's or equiv in Finance, Econ., Bus., or rel. field & 4 yrs of exp in job offered or rel. occupation: coding in R & Python; utilizing stats to do research into new factor models & to apply factor models in new ways to increase understanding of risk & return in portfolios; utilizing factor models to estimate portfolio risk & calculate performance attribution; anlyzg US & global corp. credit mrkts; & assessing portfolio's positions & its risk metrics & anlyzg key risks to determine whether risks are appropriate given portfolio's mandate. In alternative, employer will accept Bachelor's or equiv in one of above listed fields & 6 yrs of exp in above listed skills. Salary range: $161,429/yr to $205,000/yr. Apply thru https://blackrock.wd1.myworkdayjobs.com/BlackRock_Professional/ for Job ID R231213 by clicking "Apply Now."

VP (Data Sci): BNP Paribas seeks VP (Data Science) in New York, NY to serve as member of Analytics Lab w/n Change & Sol'ns Team to res., dev. & apply deep analytical sol'ns to reveal & highlight patterns & opp. in BNPP's data, gen. new mkt opps & enhancing client exp. Req: MS degg or foreign edu equiv., in MIS, CS, Stats, Math, or related quantitative field +3 yrs' exp providing strategic analysis & decision-making in the field of Data Science or, alternatively, a BS degg or foreign equiv., + 5 yrs exp as listed above. Salary: $194,750.00/year. To apply, email resume & cover letter w/Job Code S578 in subject to: careers@americas.bnpparibas.com. BNP Paribas is an equal opportunity employer fully committed to workplace diversity.

Vice President, Business Intelligence (Citadel Securities Americas Services LLC — New York, NY); Mult. Pos. Avail. Offering a salary of $101,000 to $255,000 per year. Develop & maintain a BI data warehouse of core financ'l & operat'nal data to streamline managem't report'g & analysis. Develop systematic reporting & dashboarding to address standard/recurring questions & info needs. F/T. Resumes: citadelrecruitment@citadel.com. Job ID: 6608433.

Help Wanted 2600

Video Editor (Brooklyn, NY): Work w/ PR team & graphic artist to create content for variety of digital platforms. Manage archive of all music video & promo videos. Salary: $58,802.00/yr. Reqs: Bachelor Degree in Film Production/foreign equiv. + 6 mths exp in position. Mail CV to Relapse Records, Inc., 8701D West Chester Pike, Upper Darby, PA 19082. Attn: R. Jaffe, Manager

JRI America, Inc. (NY, NY) seeks VP, Data Management to gathr & anlyze sftwre app data rqmts, dvlp sftwre apps, & mnge data in the apps. Reqs MS in Finance or Bus Admin (w/ concntrn in Accntng, Mgmt, or Finance) +2yrs exp in pos offrd or data engg pos or Bach in Finance or Bus Admin (w/ concntrn in Accntng, Mgmt, or Finance) +5yrs post-Bach prgrssv exp in pos offrd or data engg pos. All reqd exp mustve incld dsgng, supptng, implmtng, & provdng dsgn solns & biz solns for rgltry rprtng; implmtng Basel (BCBS 239) reqs specfc to FRB 2052a, CCAR (FRY14A/M/Q & Y9C) rgltry rprtng; scopng, plannng, implmtng & dvlpng majr capitl mrkts intiatves at firm wide levl implmtns of rsk data govrnce frmewrk in lrge entrprses (biz glssary, data lineage, data qlty, metrc dashbds, policies & stndrds); mngng data mgmt rsk, testng dsgn & operatnl effctivnss of data mgmt rsk cntrls, & idntfyng cntrl gaps & defciencies; & usng Waterfll & Agile mthdlgs for prjct mgmt/scrum mastr, Bus Objcts & Tubule for BI & data ETL, Oracle & SQL DBs, UML & MS Visio modlng tools, Jira, & HP Qlty Srvce Centr to exec rqst, incdnt, problm, & chnge prcesses. Telecommtng permttd from any US locatn. Salary: $162,500/yr. Email res to: Alexandra.Mercado@smbcgroup.com. Ref. #356.

Nomura Securities International, Inc. (NY, NY) seeks VP, Investment Banking to lead trnsctn executn prcess, mnge prjct timelines & ovrsee team membrs. Prsnt ideas at clnt meetngs as membr of deal team alngside MDs. Ovrsee & provide thorough fincl, structurl, & busnss rsk anlys, suppt transctns, & lead clnt presentns. Reqs MS in Bus Admin or Finance +3yrs exp in offrd pos or as Investmnt Bankng VP for fincl srvces or bankng institutn. All reqd exp mustve incld advsng on M&A, IPOs, follow-ons, mandatry convrtbles & exchngble debt offrngs, spin offs/split offs, debt-for-equity exchngs, recaptlzns, & private placemts; dvlpng fincl modls anlyzng discountd cash flow, levrgd buyout, cost of captl anlys, mergr modls, ablty-to-pay, value creatn, operatng modls, & 3-statemt modls; rsrchng trends w/in enrgy infrstrctre, powr, utlties, & oil & gas; preprng clnt presntn materials, intrnl apprvl memos, & roadshw materials, confdntl info memos, & ratng agncy presentns to exec trnsctns; & condctng rsrch usng Factset, Capital IQ, Bloomberg, Thomson & Factiva. Salary: $275,000/yr.E-mail res to: jasmine.beatty@nomura.com. Ref. #01514.

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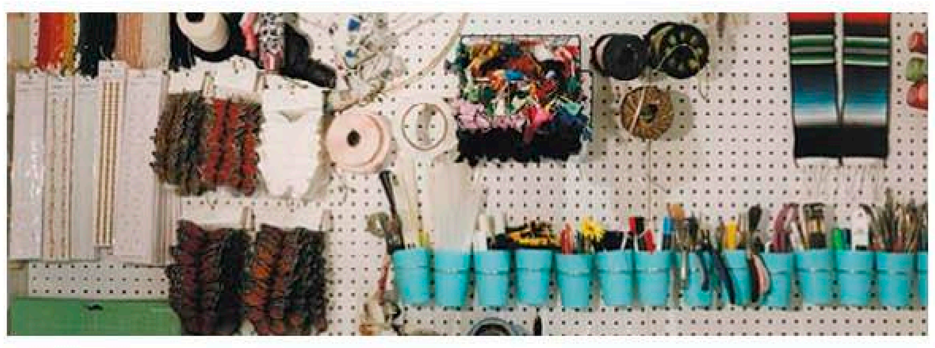
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SundayStyles
The New York Times
SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023



Spring Transitions

The only rules are no rules, but maybe keep an umbrella handy.
PHOTOGRAPHS AND TEXT BY SIMBARASHE CHA | PAGE 11

Tailoring that shows skin, and ink, is a fresh take on business casual.



EVAN JENKINS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

A tiny book with legible text at the Miniaturebookbinding Tine Krijnen table.

Huge Obsession for Tiny Things

Updated items and a new wave of enthusiasts enliven a show devoted to miniatures.

By EMMA ORLOW

CHICAGO — Moments before 10 a.m., a security guard thanked the crowd for being cooperative.

When the clock struck the hour, it became clear why: The doors of the Marriott Chicago O'Hare conference center opened, and hundreds of attendees, a majority of whom were over the age of 60, bee-lined as fast as they could to the booths.

Many had studied the color-coded map listing each booth's location ahead of time and came prepared with a shopping plan — a scene that could easily be mistaken for a Black Friday sale. Instead, it was the Chicago International Miniatures Show.

Despite the gathering touting itself as "the World's No. 1 Dollhouse Miniatures Show," there aren't many actual dollhouses. Attendees instead sift through thousands of tiny objects that fill these tiny homes: miniature sponges, chocolate fondue fountains, rocking chairs, barbecue sets, Tupperware containers or fly swatters.

The Tom Bishop show, as many attendees call it, is considered by its founder, Mr. Bishop, to be the largest dollhouse miniatures event in the world. Numbers appear to support that claim. This year, over 250 vendors traveled from 21 countries and 35 states.

More than 3,000 people attended, filling

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

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EPISODE

There Are No Universal Salves



DADU SHIN

By HEATHER HAVRILESKY

My children and I were visiting New York City's most important landmarks, so naturally we began our journey at the Glossier flagship store in SoHo.

This store isn't a store so much as a national monument built to honor the brave few who fought to bring Futuredew oil serum hybrid and Cloud Paint seamless cheek color to the pale and dehydrated masses. Ever since 2014, those loyal to dewiness and glossiness have sought a consecrated place to pay homage to Balm Dotcom universal salve and Boy Brow grooming pomade. These and about 20 other small items luxuriate in roughly 3200 square feet of minimalist white space bathed in soft pink light, embodying the higher purpose at the heart of the Glossier mission:

At Glossier, we make products inspired by real life. We believe beauty is about having fun, celebrating freedom, and being present, because no matter where you are in your beauty journey — YOU LOOK GOOD.

The mirror in the Glossier flagship store would like a word.

Although my children led me here to celebrate freedom, my personal beauty journey appears to have stalled out in some back alley where unsightly red splotches and desiccated lips have replaced plant-based, buttery moisture. I elbow my way through a hoard of teenagers to test Ultralip in Coupe, described as "a blood orange red." The Glossier website claims that wearing this lipstick feels just like "pulling on buttery-soft, well-loved cashmere sweatpants." But applying it with a Q-Tip under these late-pandemic conditions feels more like eating from a buffet table set up in a biological weapons lab.

I expect to be miraculously transformed into a fresh-faced teenager, but in the mirror I discover a creased old crone with inexplicably neon-orange lips.

"Oh Christ," I mutter. One of my eyebrows is very long — we're talking Ernest Borgnine long. Now I'm chuckling maniacally. Dewy children close in around me on all sides, impatient for their turn at the mirror.

Forget that the entire Glossier product line could fit easily into one small tote bag. Forget that most of these kids have already purchased these items several times online. The point is to see the products in their native habitat, christened in soft pink light, patrolled by ladies in light pink jumpsuits with tablets in their hands, each ready to help us have more fun and be more present.

I pick up a tube of Balm Dotcom in Birthday. There's a little sticker on the side of it with the words OUT OF STOCK written on it. I pick up another tube. OUT OF STOCK.

Many of the 20 or so products present are OUT OF STOCK.

This shortage has the effect of bestowing the few remaining items in stock with an air of preciousness and necessity. My older daughter selects a tube of lavender Balm Dotcom, the only scent currently available. We marvel at how very lavender it smells. Its lavenderness starts to feel almost miraculous, like stumbling on an old canister of Glade rug and room deodorizer spray from 1987 and huffing it into your lungs until you're hammered on the fumes.

I fish for my phone and pull up the Glossier store online. Every item is in stock. At the Sephora down the block later that day, the entire Glossier line is available. This supply chain crisis seems limited to the exact 3200 square feet of prime SoHo real estate dedicated to celebrating these products and their sublime contributions to the human endeavor.

We've unknowingly stumbled into the center of an emollient void, a serum desert. Products that were a click away a few minutes earlier are now unreachable. The realization spreads from one young face to another: There are no universal salves! Life is short and brutal and sheer, shimmering veils of blendable eye color are few and far between!

Now what once glowed with a rosy flush of youthful optimism has assumed the pale pink of a fading heart unable to go on, knowing that undetectable, flexible coverage could be ripped out of one's grasp in a single, fleeting moment.

Perhaps the national Glossier monument was cleverly designed to incite sensations of panic and loss in all who enter. Visitors are soon forced to reckon with an archaic world where parched skin and chapped elbows were daily realities. With each mounting OUT OF STOCK sticker, young hearts must grapple with the harsh truth: Beauty was not about fun during the Middle Ages. Staying dewy during the Crusades mostly meant scavenging tubers out of a neighbor's muddy field without getting mauled by his bloodthirsty hounds. Being present was a major challenge during the Irish potato famine of 1845. For several centuries before industrialization, your beauty journey mostly included soaking gout-ridden feet in a cold stream, dragging a rough stone over calloused elbows, or rubbing pig fat into prematurely graying temples. And if you somehow managed to LOOK GOOD, that only got you married off to the wealthy old butcher 20 years your senior who lived in a nearby village.

In stark contrast to this overheated age of never ending glow-ups, human existence has long been marked by sacrifice and drought, scrounging and suffering, unwanted body hair and uncontrollable hives!

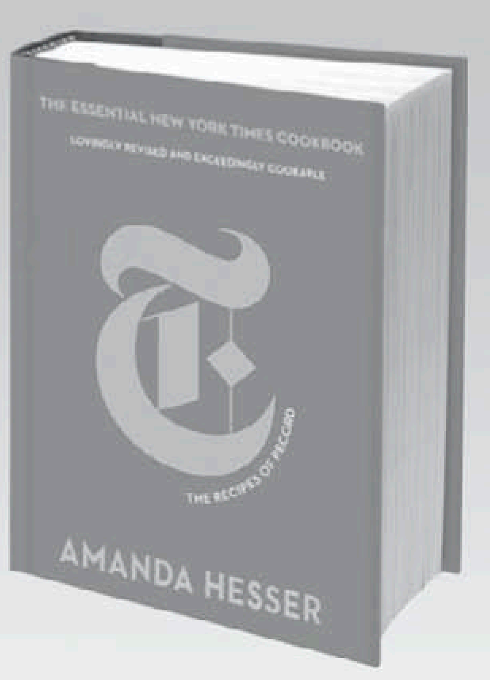
"Let's go to the Lego flagship store now," my younger daughter says as we exit Glossier. "There might be a line outside, though."

HEATHER HAVRILESKY *writes the Ask Polly advice column on Substack and is the author of four books, most recently the memoir "Foreverland."*

CORRECTION

An article last Sunday about the wedding of Rachel Liverman and Jeremy Crane misstated the year of Ms. Liverman's birth announcement. It was 1985, not 1988.

David Eyre's Pancake
Pamela Sherrid's Summer Pasta
1940s Caesar Salad
meets
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The Pomp and Customization of Graduation Caps

A cottage industry grows to meet demand for decorated mortarboards with a message.

By RACHEL SIMON

Maria Rubio wasn't sure she would graduate from Arizona State University after having a daughter when she was a sophomore.

"I was on the verge of dropping out," she said.

But Ms. Rubio, 22, whose parents immigrated to the United States from Mexico before she was born, said that becoming a mother in 2020 ultimately gave her the motivation to finish college. "More than ever, I wanted to graduate and do something for myself and my daughter," said Ms. Rubio, who lives in Phoenix.

At her graduation this month, Ms. Rubio plans to have her daughter in the audience — and on her head, in the form of a custom portrait decorating Ms. Rubio's graduation cap. The portrait, which cost $120, features likenesses of Ms. Rubio and her daughter.

"It's the cherry on top of my accomplishment," Ms. Rubio said.

Decorating graduation caps has long been a tradition among graduates, many of whom do all the gluing, beading and glittering themselves or with friends. But those who would rather outsource the task can now hire from among a growing number of artisans who create elaborate artwork placed atop a cap.

Kimberlee Morales, who made the portrait for Ms. Rubio's cap, said she has received order inquiries for graduations through 2034. She started customizing caps in 2016, when she was still in college. After a few that she had made for classmates drew attention on social media, strangers began requesting their own designs, she said. When Instagram later promoted her business, Kim's Custom Caps, it resulted in even more orders.

Ms. Morales, who works from a studio at her home in Norwalk, Calif., said she is making about 250 custom designs this year. Each typically takes two to three hours. They start at $65, but pieces that require more detailed portraits can cost more than $100.

Ms. Morales also sells semi-custom styles (starting at $28), which can be personalized with quotes or photos, as well as premade designs (starting at $26).

Judith Dueñas, 24, who is pursuing a degree online from Thomas Edison University, ordered a custom piece from Ms. Morales for her graduation this winter. Ms. Dueñas, who lives in Desert Hot Springs, Calif., and works as an administrative assistant, said she and Ms. Morales spent days developing the design. It features a prosthetic leg, which Ms. Dueñas has had since childhood, as well as elements that nod to her Mexican heritage.

Ms. Dueñas said that when she saw the finished product, which cost $120, she "sobbed for a good 10 minutes."

Ms. Morales said that most of her clients who request custom designs are the children of immigrants or have immigrated to the United States themselves. Many, she added, "owe their journeys to their families, and they want to honor that."

One that's personalized and painted by hand could cost over $200.

Like Ms. Morales, Emiah Youman began customizing graduation caps when she was in college. Ms. Youman, who started selling them through her business, Custom Couture by Emiah, in 2019, now also offers premade styles (starting at $50), as well as hand-painted designs (starting at $210).

Ms. Youman, who lives in Washington, said she has received about 100 orders this year. Her custom designs can take up to three months to complete, in part because she is running her business while attending law school at Howard University. "It's just me doing everything," she said. But, she added, "to get videos and pictures of the families with the caps, it's just really special."

Marc Goldberg said he saw the potential for a cap-decorating business back in the late '90s, when his mother couldn't locate him among the throng of black-capped students at his college graduation. "I thought, 'There's got to be a way that you can stand out in the crowd,'" said Mr. Goldberg, who lives in Midland Park, N.J. Years later, in 2012, he started Tassel Toppers, which lets customers design mortarboards online.

Custom mortarboards from Tassel Toppers start at $25, in part because the company does not offer hand-painted styles; premade designs start at $15. Mr. Goldberg, who also owns a technology company, said this allows some orders to be shipped within 24 hours of being placed. The company, which employs five full-time assistant designers, can complete as many as 1,000 orders a day between April and June, Mr. Goldberg said.

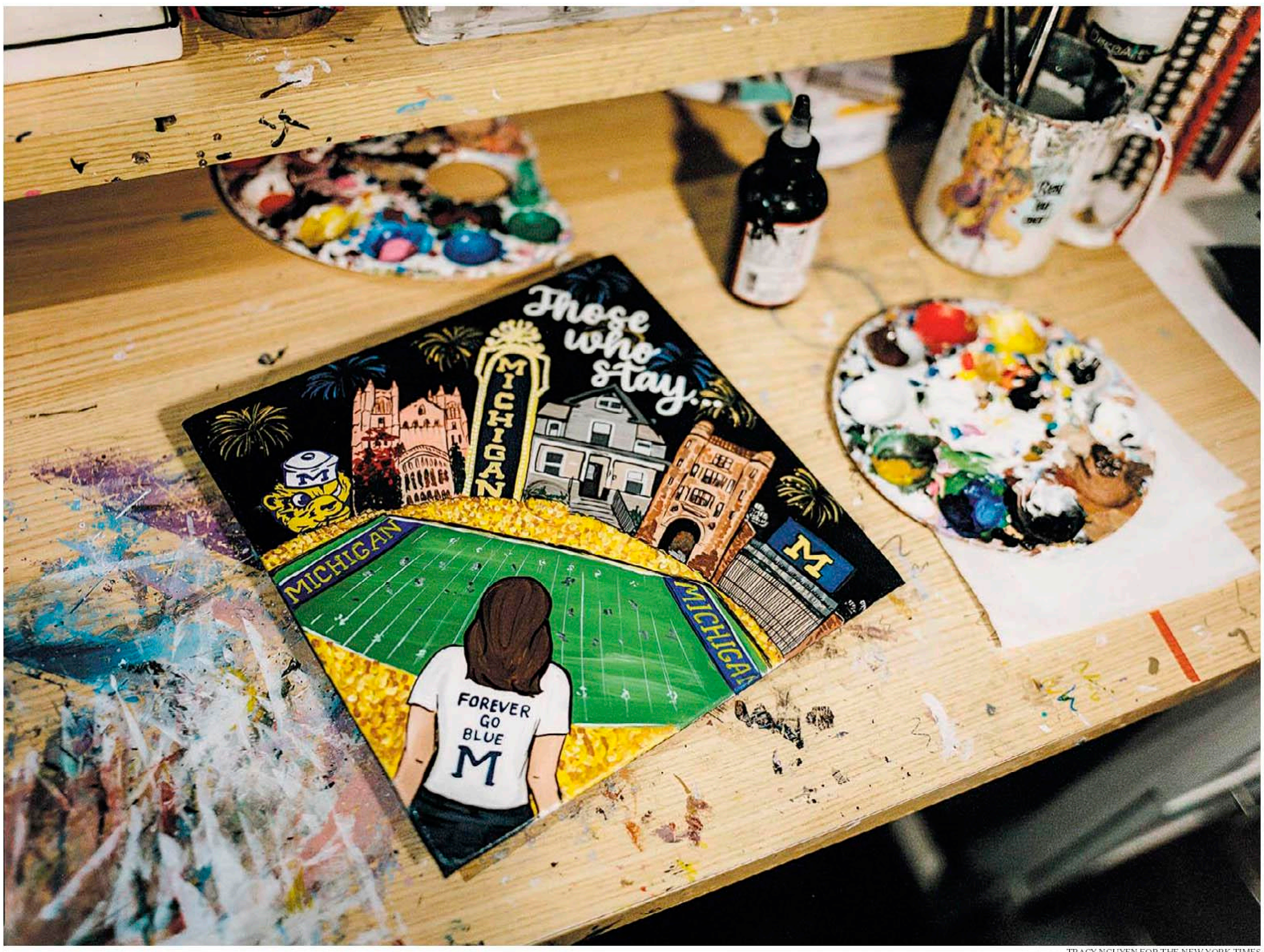
Sarah Plazola, a part-time substitute teacher in Los Angeles who began making custom caps in 2017, said she received thousands of order inquiries in 2022. This year, Ms. Plazola said she has accepted some 260 orders for her custom designs, which start at $30. She also sells premade styles, starting at $25.

Ms. Plazola said that in the years since she started her business, Uncapped Creations, she has noticed that the field of cap decorators has become more crowded and that more designs are starting to look alike. She once had to ask another maker to stop offering styles that borrowed too much from hers.

"I don't mind when other makers add their own personality and creativity to it," Ms. Plazola said. "But when it's a complete copy, I will not stay quiet."

Even though she has more competition, Ms. Plazola still has to turn customers down.

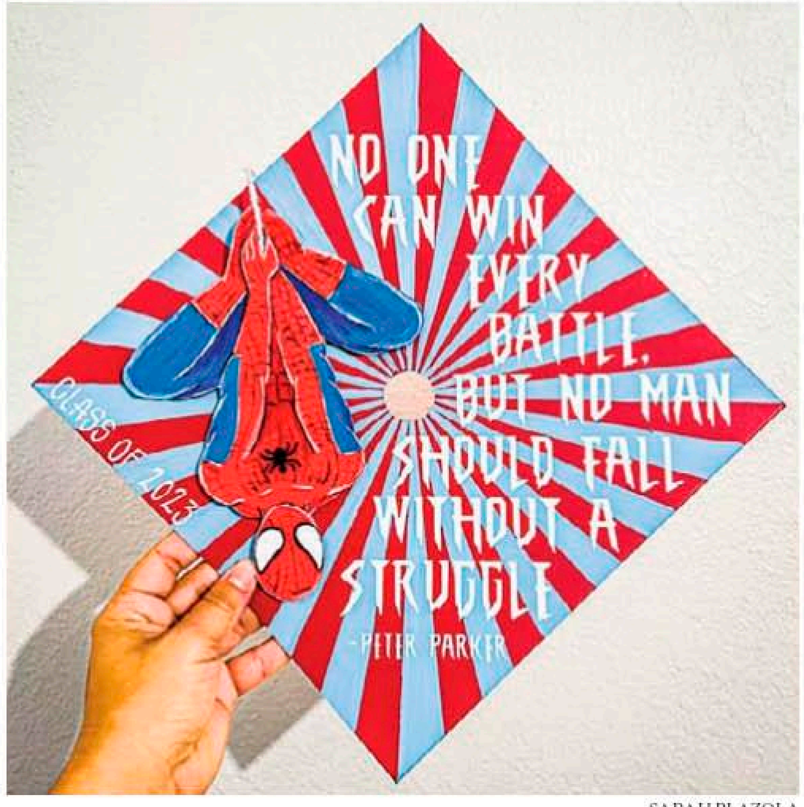
"There are so many graduates," she said. "I can't cater to all of them."



TRACY NGUYEN FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES



KIMBERLEE MORALES



SARAH PLAZOLA



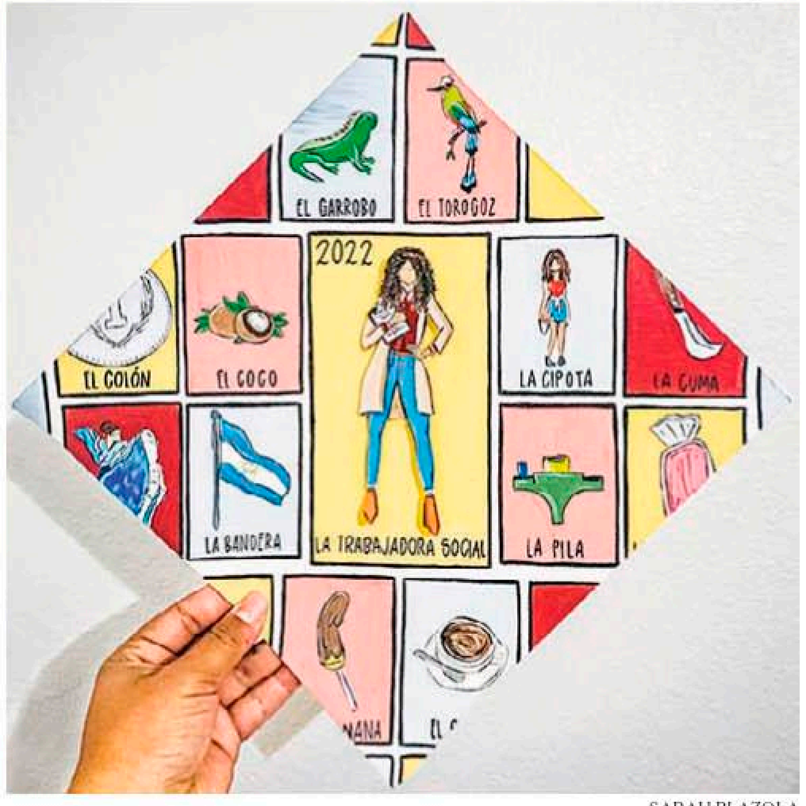
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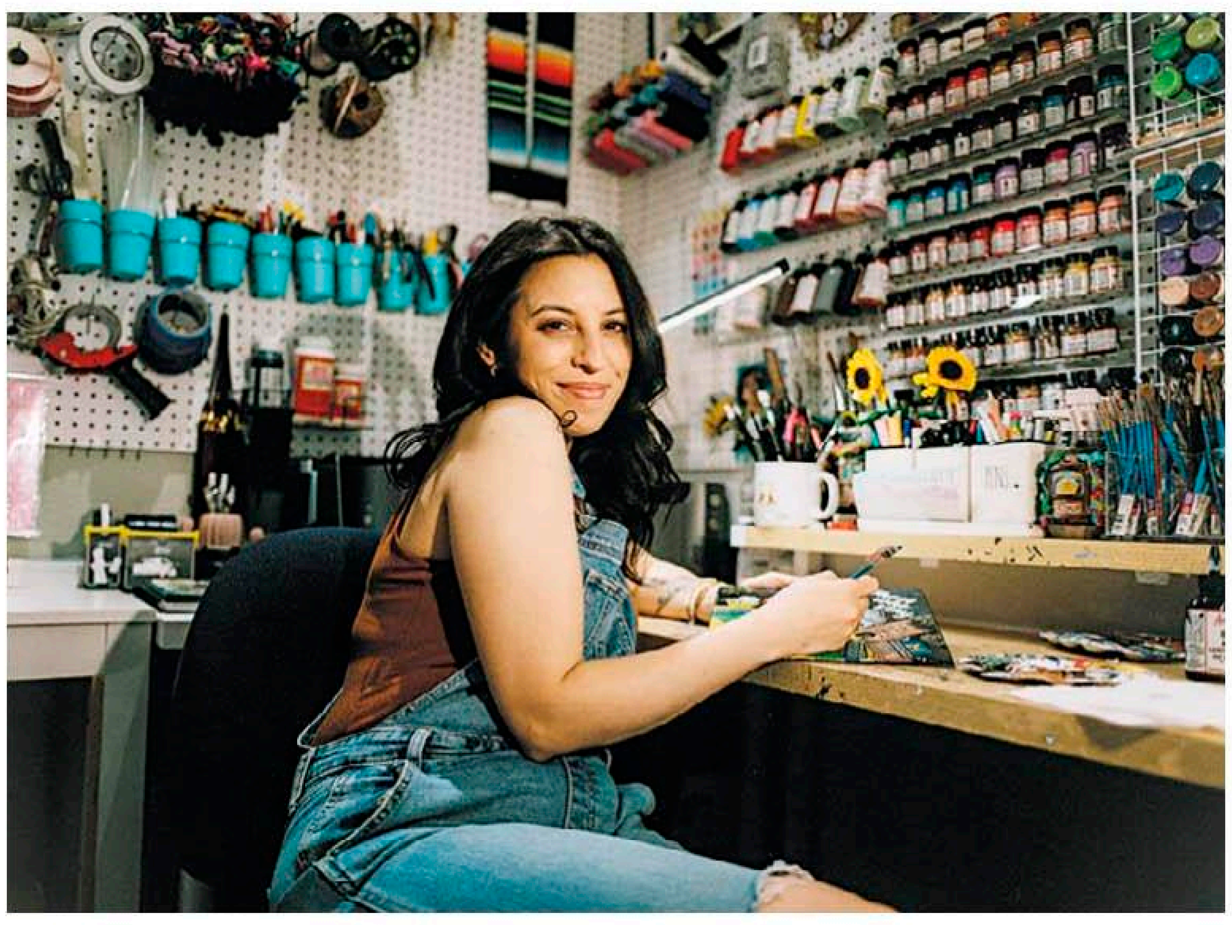
KIMBERLEE MORALES



SARAH PLAZOLA



KIMBERLEE MORALES


Kimberlee Morales, in her Norwalk, Calif., studio, where she is creating some 250 custom pieces for graduates this year, like the one at top and others above.


ABOVE AND LEFT, TRACY NGUYEN FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Sarah Plazola, who began customizing caps in 2017 and created some of the above, says that the field has gotten more crowded, and that more designs are starting to look alike.

Fans Adopt a Mother as the Spirit Moves Them

A term of affection has roots in the Black and Latino L.G.B.T.Q. ballroom scene subculture.

By BEN KESSLEN



ILLUSTRATION BY TINA TONA; PHOTOGRAPHS BY GETTY IMAGES

To many people on the internet, the actress Toni Collette is known simply as "mother."

Ms. Collette has played more than her share of mothers throughout her career: a matriarch with dissociative identity disorder on the TV show "United States of Tara"; a miniatures artist whose family is haunted after the death of her own mother in the film "Hereditary"; and, more recently, an American mom charged with taking over her Italian family's mob business in the movie "Mafia Mamma."

But Ms. Collette is not necessarily called mother for playing fictional ones, or even for being a mother in real life. Instead, fans have bestowed the title as a way to express their appreciation.

When fans call her mother, which they often do, "it feels like a well-intended, collective, familial, warm hug," Ms. Collette said in an email. She is one of many celebrities who, if lacking a proper understanding of the word's new use, might wonder why they suddenly have so many children.

Mother is everywhere. The slang term — without an article in front — is used by fans, brands and sometimes even mothers themselves. It derives from the Black and Latino L.G.B.T.Q. ballroom scene, a queer subculture in which members are organized into so-called houses often led by a "mother." The word's current use, however, veers campier and is mostly used as a term of endearment for famous women with avid devotees. Its popularity has a precedent in the late 2010s, when seemingly every male celebrity was called "daddy," a term used to describe good-looking older men.

But in 2023, daddy is dead: Long live mother. Mother's ballads raised you; mother's widely panned performances gave you life; and mother's mothering mothered so hard that you must show her the respect she deserves. To do so, call her mother.

According to the internet, mother is Mariah Carey, Madonna, Whitney Houston, Adele, the K-pop group Blackpink and Diana, Princess of Wales. She is also Jennifer Lopez, who stars in the film "The Mother" and who was certainly mother in the 2019 film "Hustlers." She is the character Shiv Roy, played by Sarah Snook on "Succession"; she is even the Elkay water-bottle-filling station, which lets you avoid spending $5 on a bottle of water at the airport.

Who is and isn't mother is subjective, of course. Juan Camilo Velásquez, 30, a writer who lives in New York City, considers Lana Del Rey to be mother. "I think she's an amazing singer and songwriter," he said, adding that her music struck him as "timeless but very contemporary."

But for Cameron Columbia, Ms. Del Rey *isn't* mother. "I would never hate on anybody, but like, I've never really gotten into Lana Del Rey," said Mr. Columbia, 23, a student from Long Island. "My all-time mother would be Ariana Grande."

Brandon Walker, 23, who works in insurance and lives in Louisville, Ky., said he called people mother because of "the ways they've influenced the pop culture sphere or how they had an effect on me." As a Black gay boy growing up in the South, he felt that mothers like Beyoncé, Rihanna and Nicki Minaj helped him express himself.

"Mother is fundamentally a female figure who raised you through a period in your life," said Mr. Walker, who also counts Ms. Collette among his mothers. Calling a woman mother is also a way of "paying homage to them for the work they've put in their respective industry," he said.

Mother dates to the 1970s in the New York ballroom scene, which was created in response to racism in the drag and pageant community. These spaces often created surrogate family structures for marginalized L.G.B.T.Q. people of color.

According to Sydney Baloue, a member of the House of Xtravaganza who is writing a book on the history of ballroom and vogueing, "the first mother of ballroom" was Crystal LaBeija. Many in the ballroom community say the scene's current iteration began in 1972, he said, when Ms. LaBeija helped to found the first house, the House of LaBeija.

Ms. LaBeija, a Black drag performer and transgender woman, was the catalyst for our current cultural moment, said Mr. Baloue, who was a co-executive producer of the ballroom competition show "Legendary." If you're mother, "you're the one who's won the most trophies, you're the one who's the most prominent member," he said. "You also do a lot of taking care of the kids."

Mother, who can be of any gender, "evolved out of these communities who have had to recreate or rethink what actual mothering and family are" after being ostracized from their biological families, said Marlon M. Bailey, a professor of African and African American studies at Washington University in St. Louis who wrote a book chronicling ballroom culture in Detroit.

Ms. Collette suspects that a lack of maternal affection may be why her fans, many of whom are L.G.B.T.Q., call her mother. "I don't want to get too deep about such a sweet gesture, but it may also indicate a large need for parental acceptance and love," she wrote. "Not everyone had or has the healthiest relationship with their mom. Having played so many different women with kids, I may have come to represent or fill a social media gap of what is lacking for so many people."

Still, she added: "It may also just simply be because of the 'I am your mother' speech in 'Hereditary.' It's a ripper."

On "RuPaul's Drag Race," Mr. Baloue said, contestants "suck up anything from ballroom," repeat it and, in turn, popularize a word that "doesn't always get passed properly." RuPaul has embraced the term, releasing the song "Call Me Mother" in 2017. Viewers may adopt the word, whether or not they know the proper context.

Mr. Baloue thinks the term "mother" makes sense for some figures outside the ballroom community. "When there are those Black diva figures who we admire, like Diana Ross or Patti LaBelle or Chaka Khan," he said, "there's also a way that we refer to them as mother because not only did they nurture us with their music and their cultural contribution, but they fed us in a kind of way."

"Mother" further entered broader culture thanks to the show "Pose," which debuted in 2018 and was set in the 1980s New York ballroom scene. It features the actress Michaela Jaé Rodriguez, who plays the mother of the fictional House of Evangelista.

Ms. Rodriquez said being able to play a ballroom mother was an honor, joy and serious responsibility, adding that she found the term's newfound popularity "beautiful."

"I think anyone should be able to use a term that is trending," she said, stressing "it's important to know where that term has derived from, which is the Philadelphia and New York City ballroom culture."

Ms. Rodriguez cautioned that there were "boundaries" to adopting a new term with deep historical connections to a marginalized community: "The boundaries are knowing where it came from, always letting the world know where the culture came from."

Those boundaries become blurred when a term, once popular online, finds its way into brand copy. Mr. Baloue sees the corporate embrace of mother as almost inevitable. "Black culture is American culture and it ends up informing everything," he said.

After Variety posted on Twitter that "Jennifer Lopez is mother" and BuzzFeed UK said that the "Yellowjackets" star Melanie Lynskey was "so MOTHER," Professor Bailey said he found himself troubled. "It's about marketing identities and practices, and appropriating cultural formations like the ballroom community," he said, "without attending to the conditions out of which ballroom was created in the first place."

Enter Meghan Trainor, who has embraced the term mother to the nth degree.

Ms. Trainor, who is pregnant with her second child, released her song "Mother" in March, singing: "I am your mother. You listen to me." The song's music video — which came out shortly before Ms. Trainor published "Dear Future Mama," a guide to new motherhood — even stars Kris Jenner, "momager" extraordinaire, and opens with a voice declaring that Ms. Trainor is "literally mother." (Through a publicist, Ms. Trainor declined to be interviewed for this article.)

The song and accompanying video was "a show of how the term had lost all meaning," Mr. Velásquez said. "We've reached the point where if you become the best at being bad, then you become the mother of being the opposite of mother," he said.

Ms. Rodriguez, who knows Ms. Trainor and loves the song "Mother," said she liked how the singer played on the term's duality. "I think how she's using the term, it's right for her, and she can use it in any way she wants to," Ms. Rodriguez said.

She added, "How the world perceives it is how the world perceives it."

'I may have come to represent or fill a social media gap of what is lacking for so many people.'

TONI COLLETTE
ON BEING REFERRED TO AS 'MOTHER' BY FANS ONLINE



A24



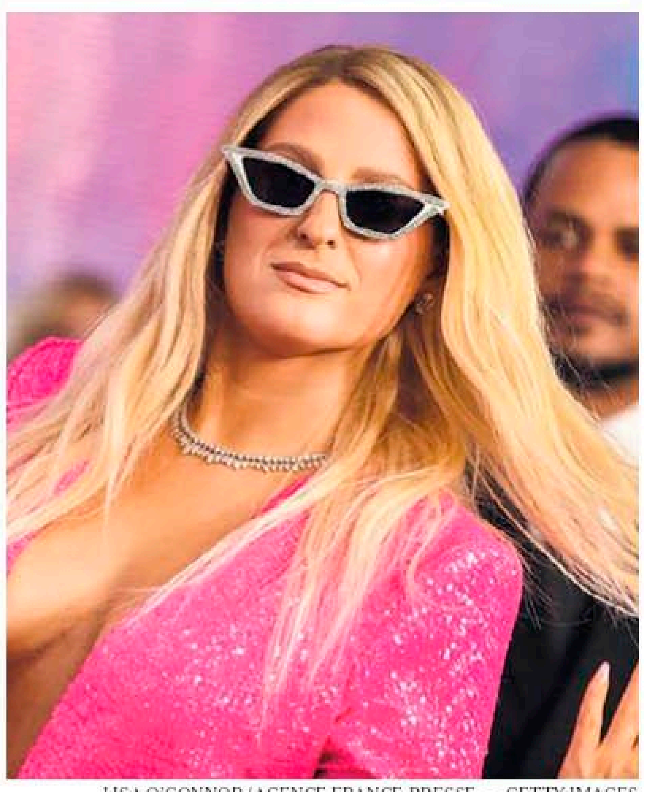
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NETFLIX



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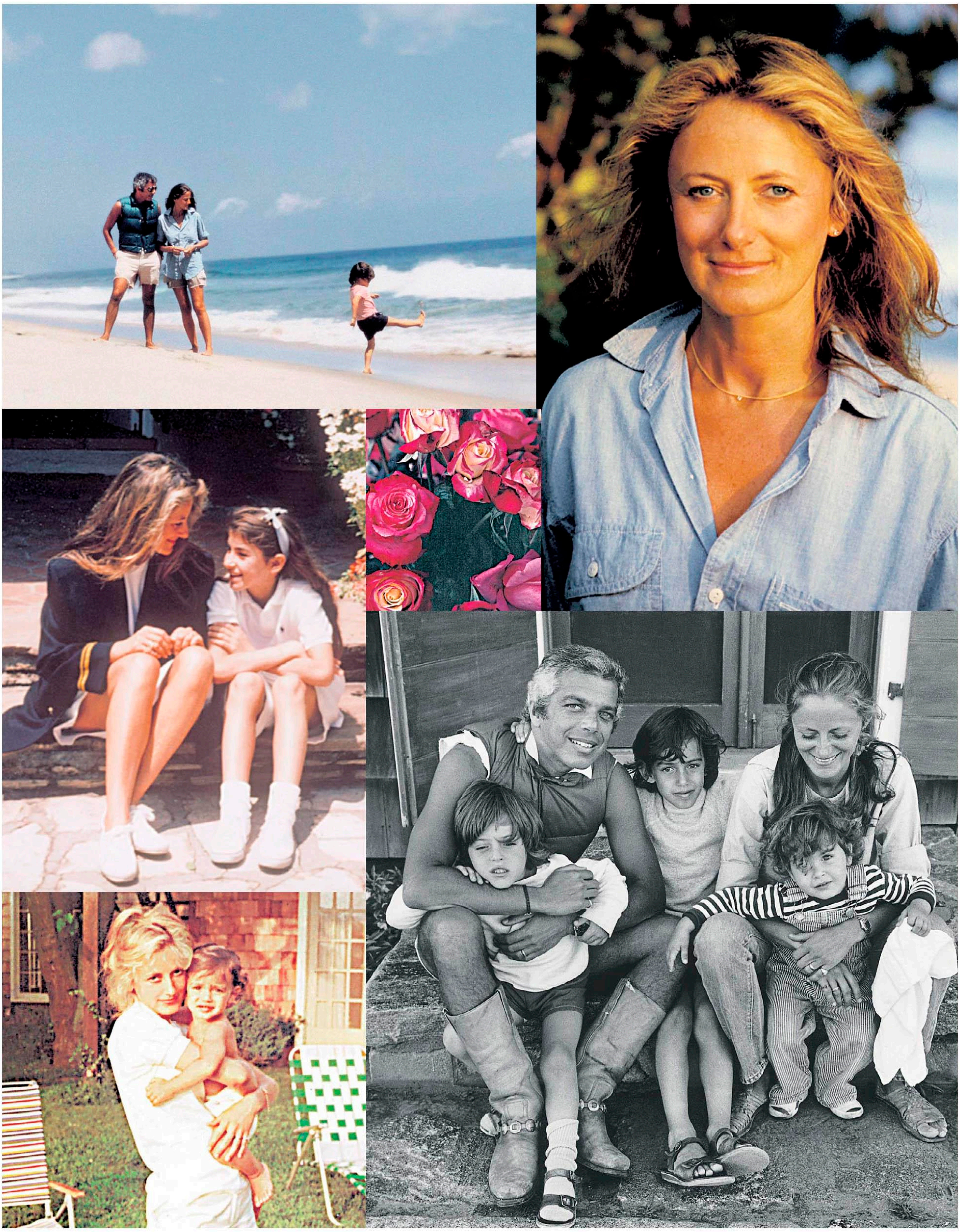
LISA O'CONNOR/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE — GETTY IMAGES



FX

"Mother" — without the article — is used by fans and brands to express love and appreciation for celebrities like, clockwise from top left: Toni Collette, left, in "Hereditary"; Crystal LaBeija, the founder of the first ballroom house; RuPaul, second from left; Michaela Jaé Rodriguez, center, from "Pose"; the singer Meghan Trainor; and Jennifer Lopez, now starring in "The Mother," an action-thriller.

RALPH LAUREN



On this Mother's Day,
let us celebrate the beauty, strength, and joy of mothers
everywhere who give of themselves daily and all
those who play that role in our lives.

From our family to yours,
Happy Mother's Day

Ralph Lauren

MODERN LOVE

With Words, a Stranger Grows More Familiar

She tried to let go after cutting off all contact with her mother. Now she's trying to hold on.

By CAITLIN McCORMICK


BRIAN REA

I found Soph on an app. I met her at a red-lit wine bar in the West Village. She was exactly as pictured, except warmer, more aglow. Sheepish and charming, with a full laugh that I wanted to swallow for myself, she went in for a hug when I approached her.

I already knew she was Australian. Over text, I made her swear to explain in-person how she'd ended up here. It was the gray mush between Christmas and New Year's, the only time New York feels like finding a quiet, unlocked bedroom at a party.

It matched my mood. Weeks earlier, I had gone through a breakup that upset me because it didn't upset me. Heartbreak at 23, I decided, should have felt like a great medieval slaying. Like being cut open.

At the wine bar, Soph told me about how her father had met her mother, a born-and-raised New Yorker, when visiting from Sydney decades ago. Soph was here for a few months to spend time with her mother's side of the family while on summer break from veterinary school. She hoped to move to the city in the fall, finally making good use of her dual citizenship.

"And your mom lives in Sydney now?" I asked.

"Well, she did," Soph said. "We lost her a few years ago, actually."

I almost asked her to repeat herself; I wanted to dissect her delivery. I couldn't believe she had so effortlessly nailed a tone I had been chasing for the past three years.

In fact, I was so stunned that I told her something I normally saved for the sixth date, or the ninth, or never: I also had lost my mother. In a way. We were estranged.

I was good at being estranged from my mother, and I was good at making other people feel comfortable about our estrangement — but I was bad at talking about it. My mother was an alcoholic, and not the covert kind. She stole, lied and cheated. She spoke to me only with cruelty — until eventually, after my parents separated several years ago, I cut her off entirely.

I lived the adult life I did — with a job I loved, friends who loved me, and hobbies and interests and things that eventually my mother had none of — not despite our estrangement but because of it. I felt an obligation to be a kind of estrangement poster child. A living, breathing embodiment of "Look, life goes on."

I went to group therapy and solo therapy. I hosted a Friendsgiving, where guests were required to bring a dish their mother might have prepared. I joked about mommy issues, with both irony and sincerity.

Still, it never stopped being hard. I owed no one an explanation, in theory, yet in practice I did.

I came out as gay often, but I came out as someone without a mother constantly. I never felt that I had the right shorthand. She was an unwell person, but for the first 18 years of my life she had been a beautiful, successful, sparkly person. She loved me fiercely. And then in only a matter of years she plummeted into a dark cave where none of us could follow.

How were you supposed to let anybody in again after such betrayal? I had no answer. Every day I understood addiction less.

"It's not the same," I said to Soph that first evening. Her mother had died from cancer. "I just mean that I also don't have a mom. I don't have my mom."

"It's absolutely the same," Soph said.

And like everything else she told me, I believed her.

The next day I hosted a New Year's Eve dinner party. We ate Caesar salad and French fries and leek soup and drank wine with funky paper labels. I told everyone that the day before I'd met someone sparkly.

On our second date, we walked 30 blocks uptown along the park to my apartment. Around Strawberry Fields, she said an injured bird has a fighting chance if it retains grip strength. She held her finger out to me, like a hooked talon, to demonstrate.

She would leave in March, so over the next few months, I broke all my own rules. Soph could see me twice in a week, then three times, then four. Soph could meet my friends. Soph could come to Tuesday trivia. We could be exclusive, but only until she left.

In coming to know Soph, I also came to know her mother. Here was her mother's favorite cocktail bar, her favorite French bistro, her childhood neighborhood. Not only did Soph know New York at least as well as I did, but she also knew it through her mother's eyes. I envied the way she casually slotted her mother into everyday conversation, including and honoring her, as if it cost nothing.

"It's different," I said. "Your mom was sick."

"Your mom is also sick though," she told me.

I wondered what it would be like to honor my mother in the same way: to honor her with the kind of absolution we usually reserve for the dead. To mourn not who she had become but who she had once been — and not worry whether it was a grace she deserved.

And so I did exactly that: I tried to relearn how to talk about my mother. How to say that she was a professional chef by trade who had served powerful people in cities all over the country. That simultaneously she had been the kind of mother who paid her taxes, blanched her broccoli with good kosher salt, texted Bitmojis that said, "I'm So Proud of U!"

I owed no one an explanation, in theory, yet in practice I did.

I started pointing out things that reminded me of her. Work clogs worn with dresses. Joan Osborne and Joni Mitchell. Any storefront that used to be a Dean & Deluca. I wished I knew even more — like where, so many years ago, our mothers could have passed each other on the street.

It was only then, as things go, that out in Arizona my mother entered the hospital for late-stage liver disease. First the doctors guessed she had two or three years. This became a month. I booked a flight for a week out. And then finally, as I took the subway to Queens to meet Soph's grandmother, it became days.

My relationship with my mother was a movie I had put on pause to leave the room, only to return to find the credits playing.

"If you have something to say, now would be the time to come home," my father said when I got off at the earliest stop I could, which happened to be at Citi Field. When Soph met me in the parking lot, I asked her, without the prepared speech I had hoped to give, to be my girlfriend.

The next day, I flew to Tucson. By the time my plane touched down, after two layovers, my mother was unconscious. I haven't decided if this was her version of grace. I still don't know what I would have said, besides "I love you" and "I forgive you" and "Why don't I know your favorite cafe downtown? Why won't I ever know?" I have no choice but to believe this was enough.

As with love, there is not much to say about death that hasn't been said before. It is often a lot of waiting around. I gathered with aunts and uncles and siblings as my mother lay in hospice. We discussed whether we liked the eggplant curry we had ordered better than the chicken. We played board games and listened to my mother's breathing, quieting to hear it slow. Ultimately, we lost her too.

Lately, when I am asked how I'm doing (in that particular limp tone that we use for terrible things), I try on grief truisms like old jeans. I say I am fine — and also cut open. I am Little Red Riding Hood lost in the woods.

In my best moments, though, I am learning to use these questions to continue the work I started, which is to say: I use them to talk about my mother. I attempt past tense. She was beautiful and successful and sparkly. She took her chardonnay with ice.

At the end of each day, on the phone with my girlfriend 14 hours in the future, I ask her questions.

"Did you know?" I ask with urgency, about the smell of death, about old voice mail messages, about all matters of grief.

"Yes, I know," she always says.

She says she likes the idea that someone only dies the last day someone says their name. I like this truism best of all.

She promises me that we have forever to master talking about it. I think we must spend forever trying.

CAITLIN McCORMICK *is a writer in New York.*

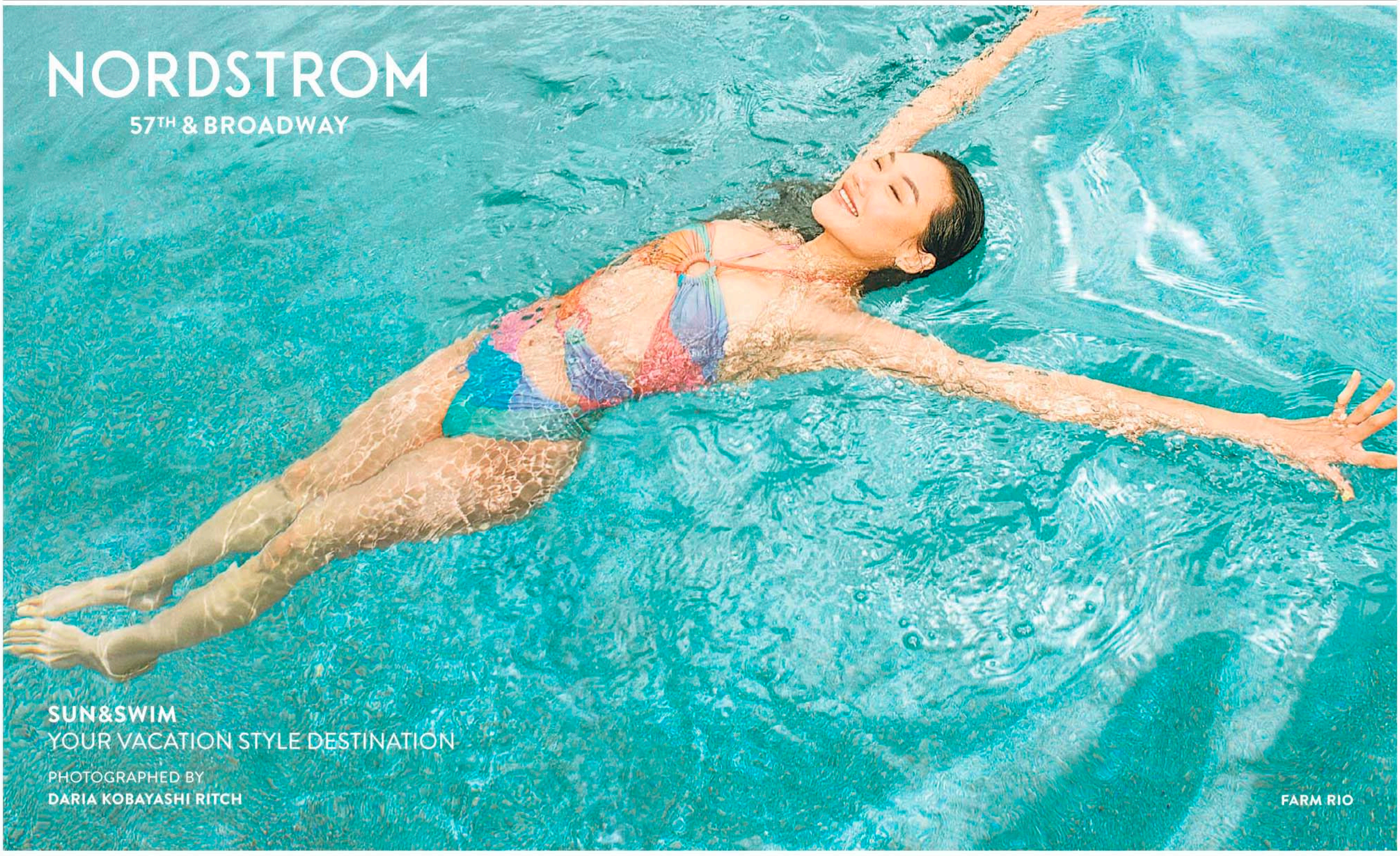
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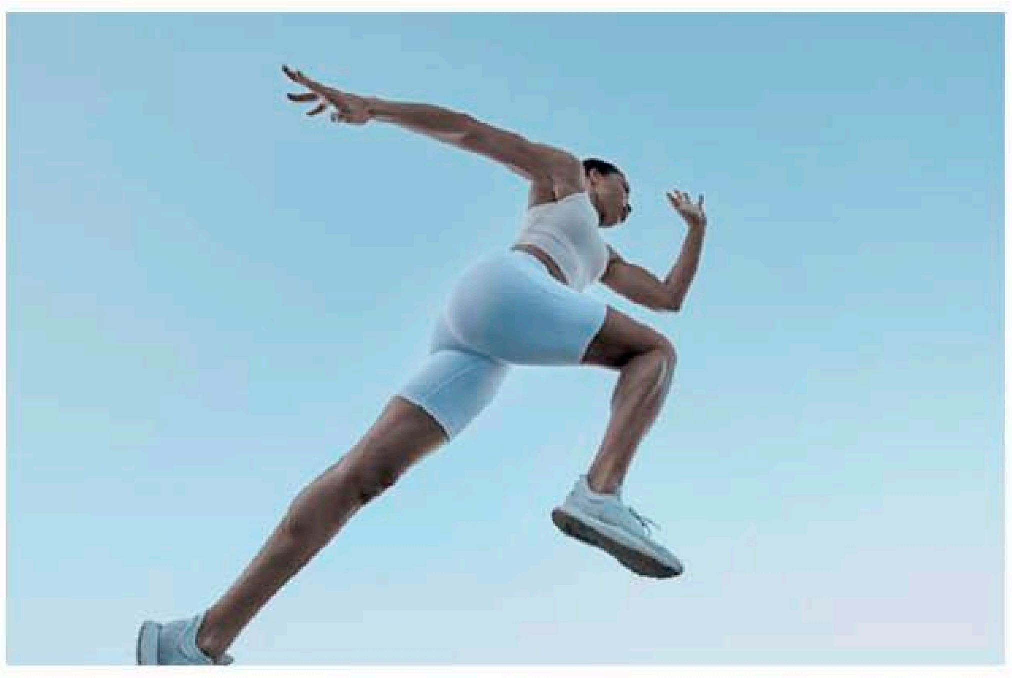
Tiny Love Stories Carrying Me Through

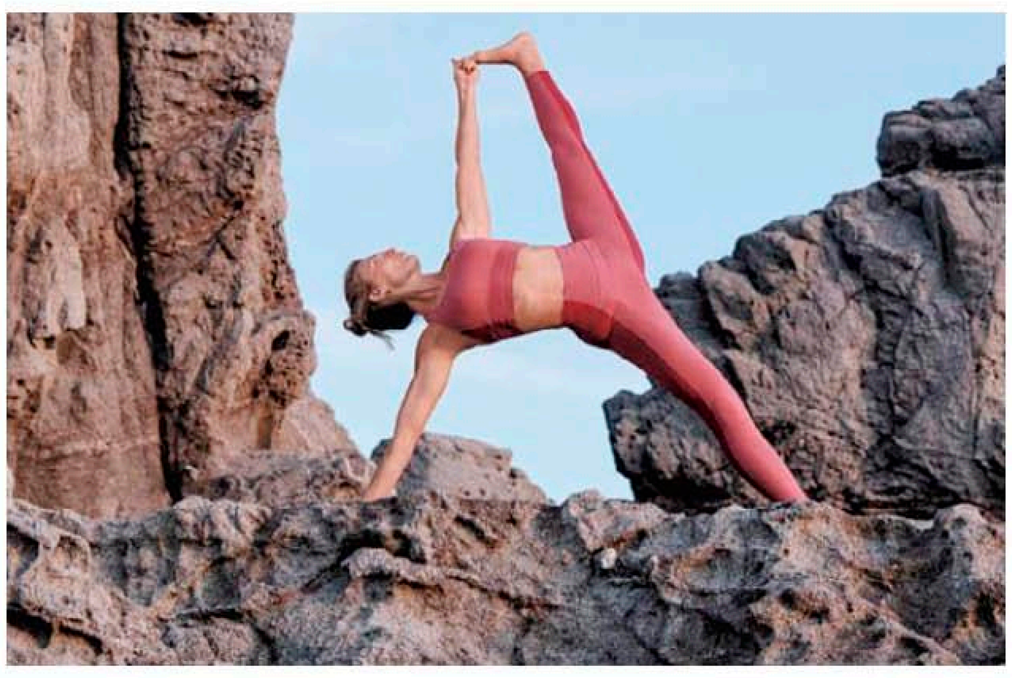
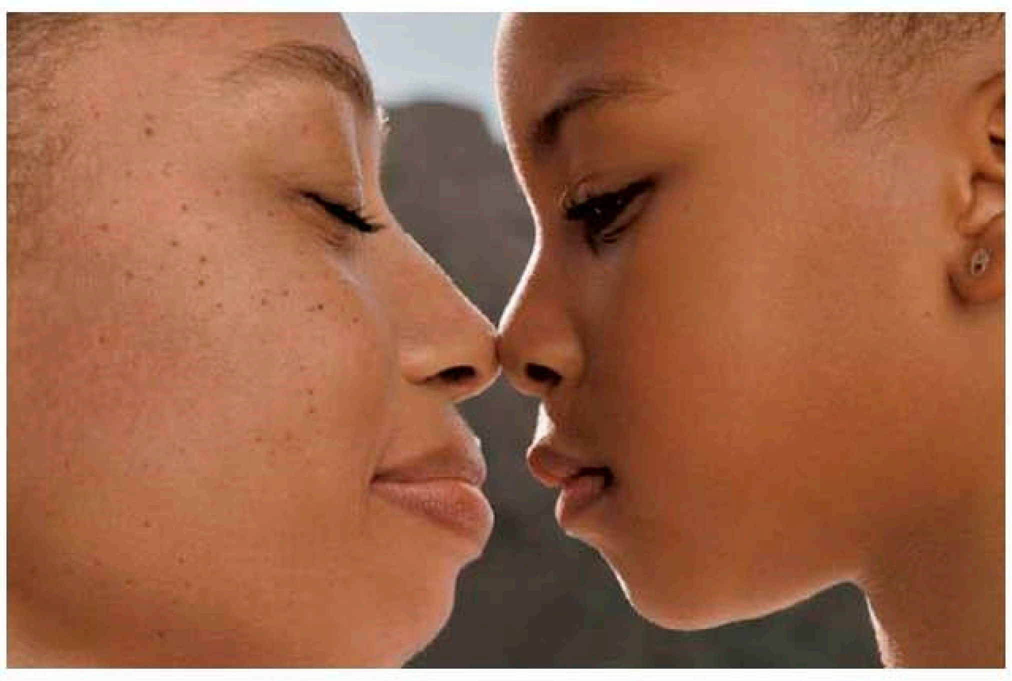
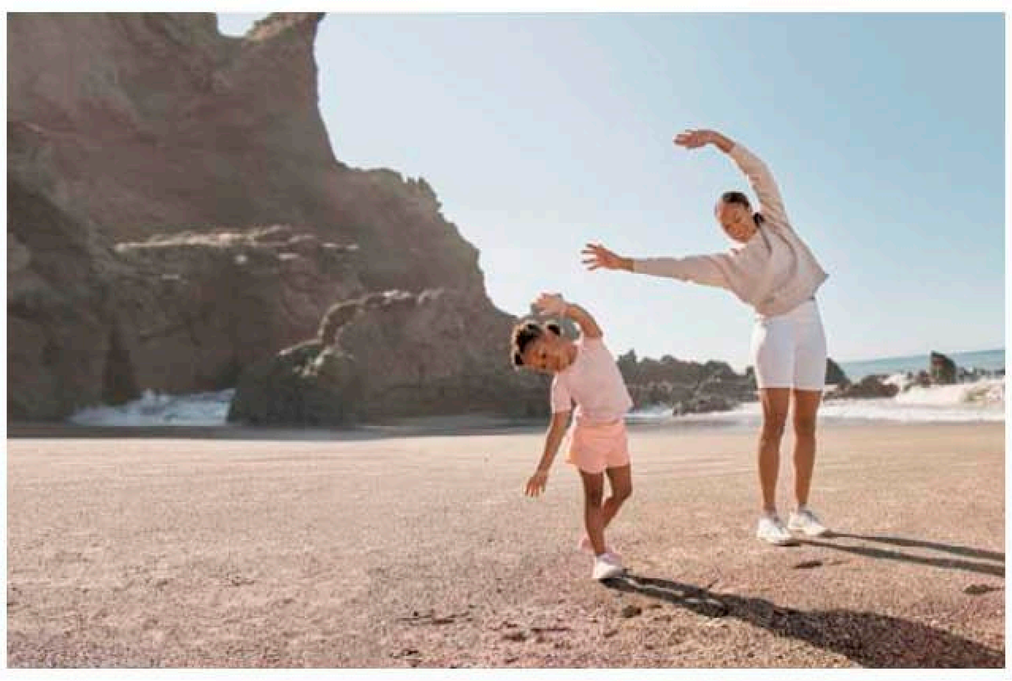


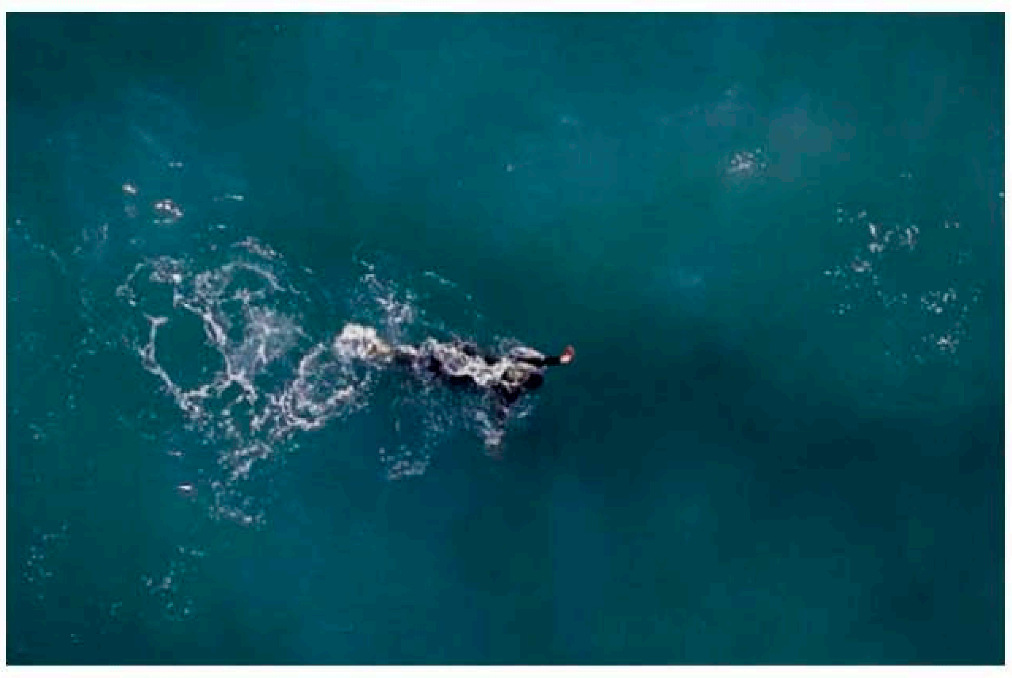
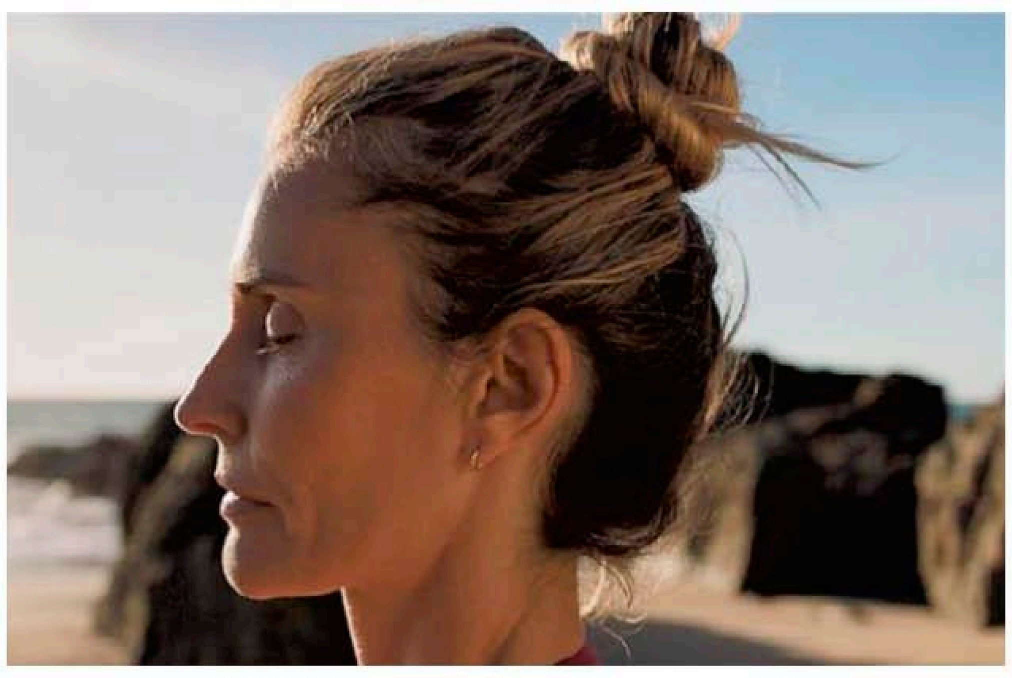
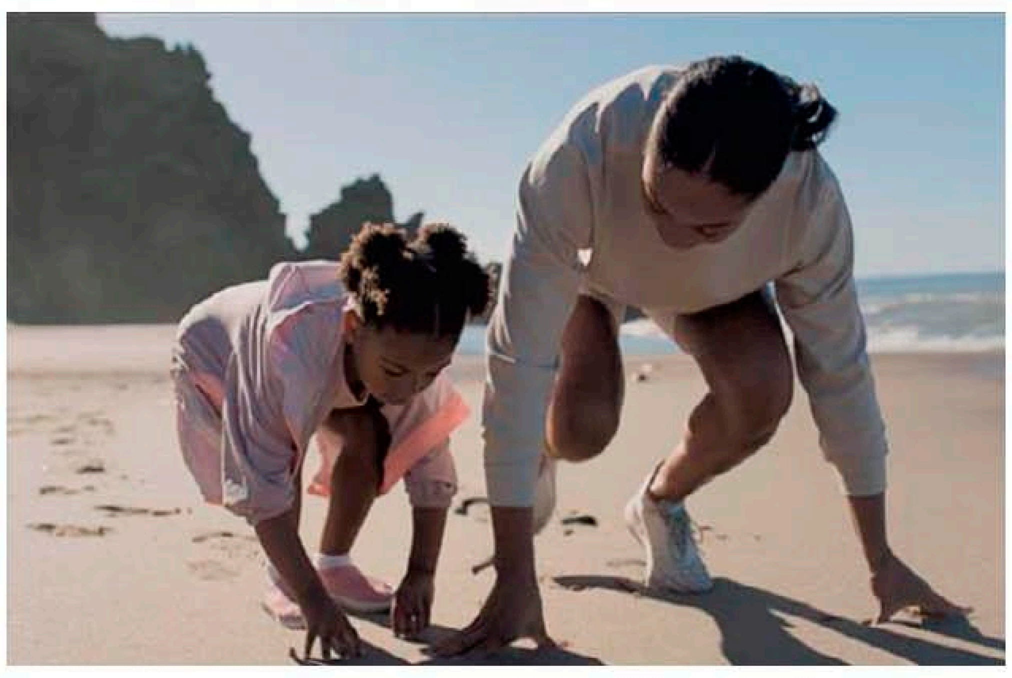
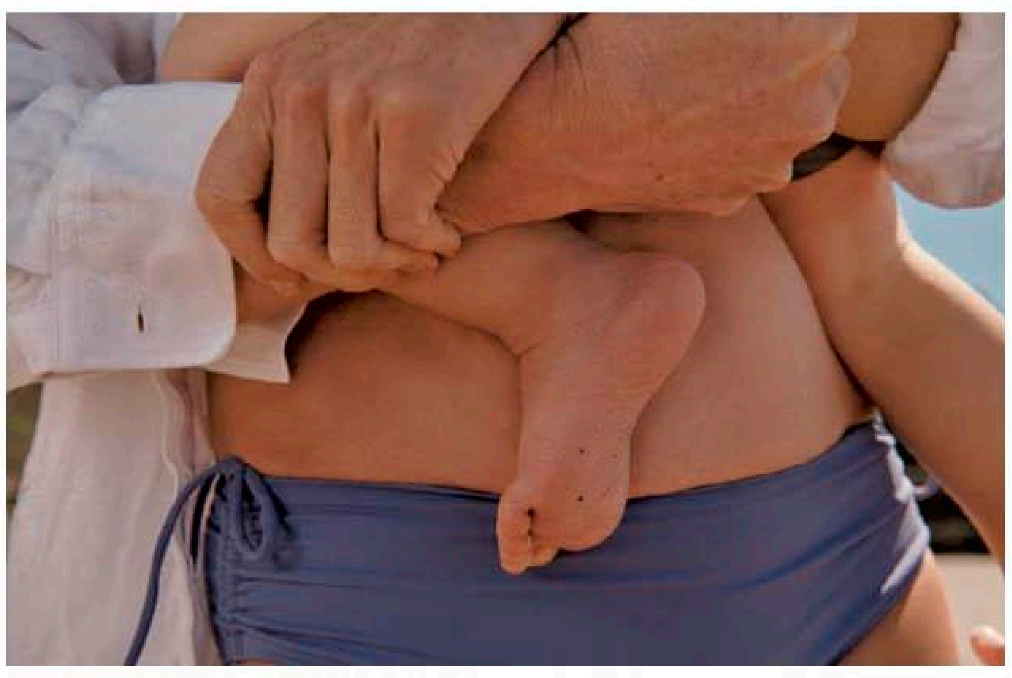
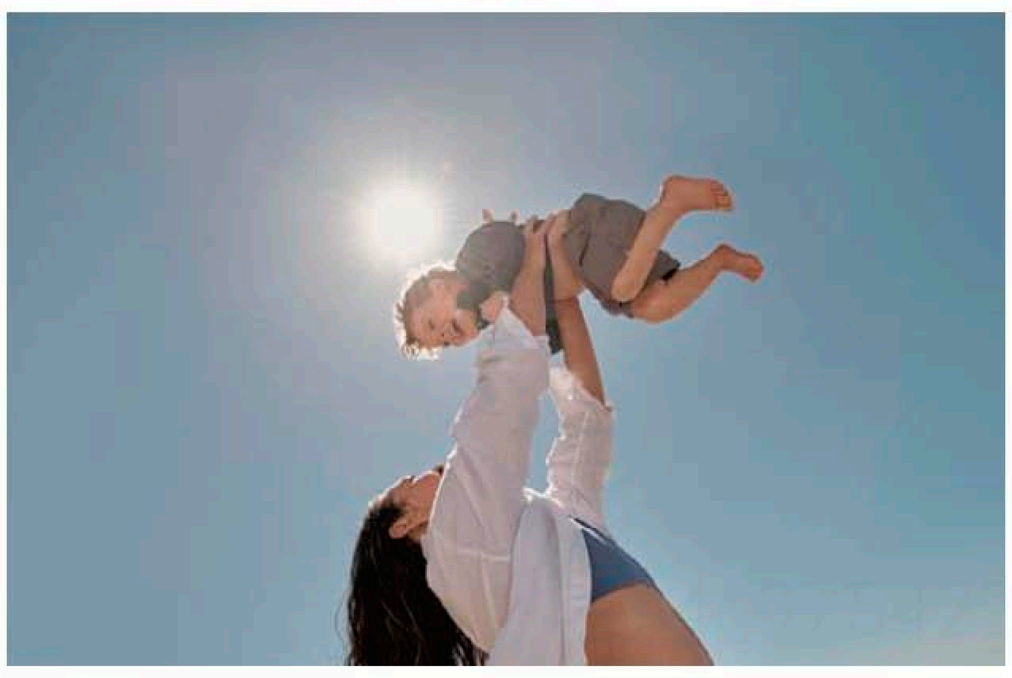
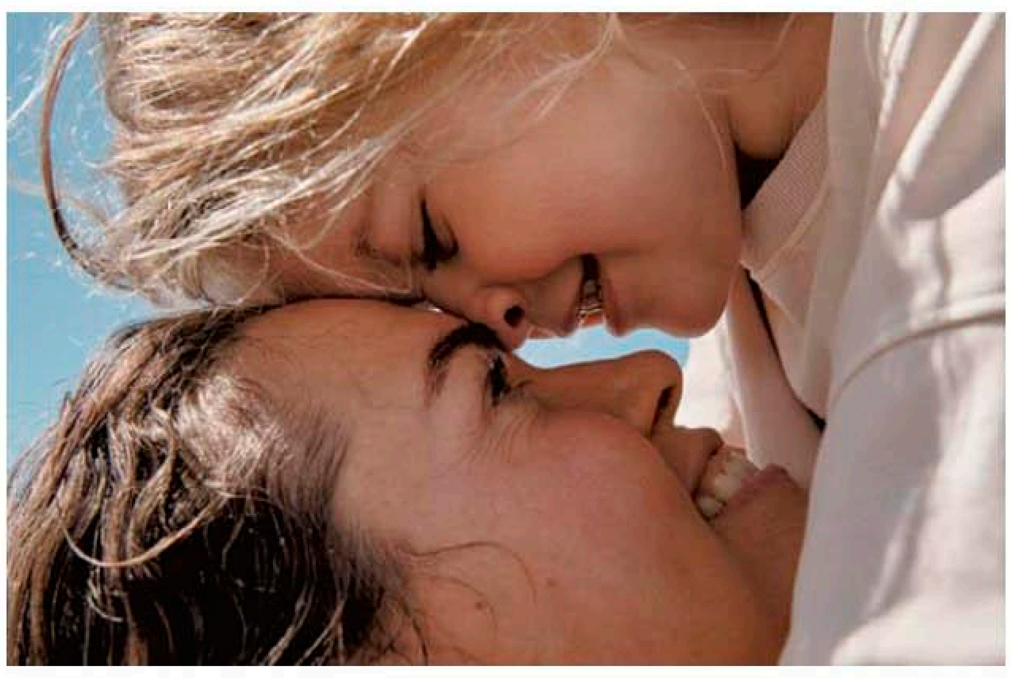
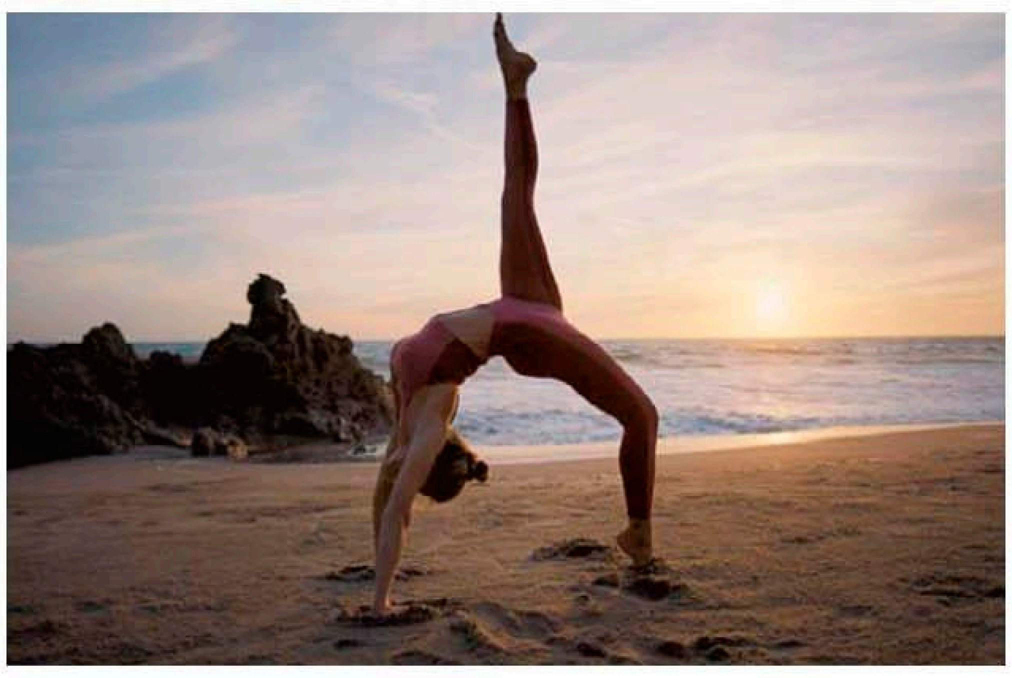
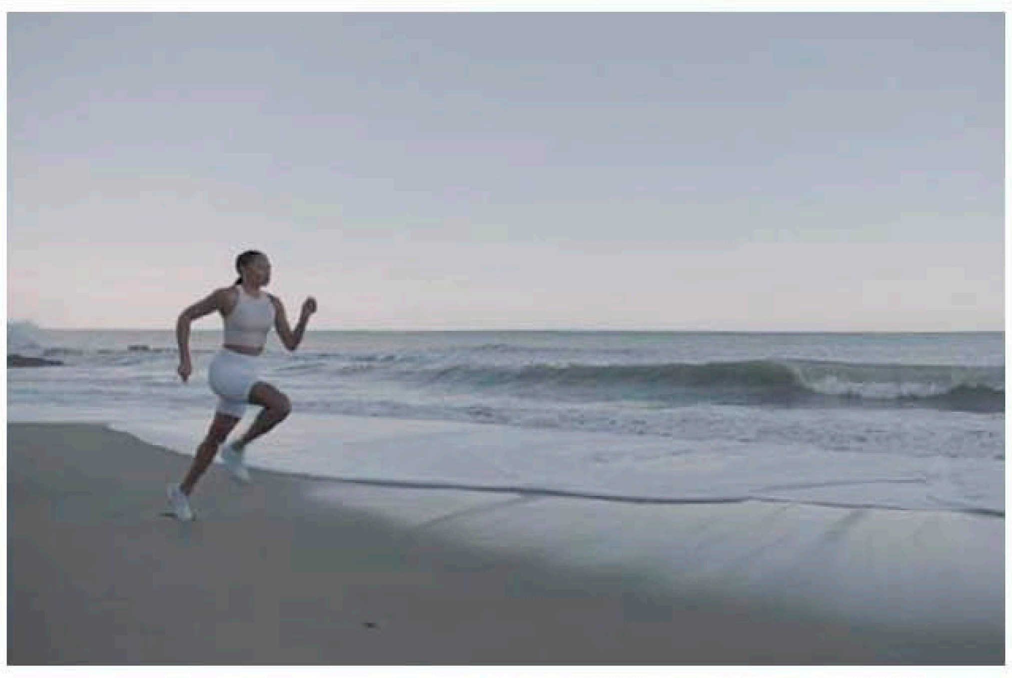
In the winter of my 40th year, I received a cancer diagnosis that required major surgery. I packed my hospital bag and kissed my spouse, toddler and baby goodbye. While there, a Canadian storm pelted the area with every precipitation possible. The roads were treacherous, but my mother waltzed in as if by magic. She made a bed out of a hard bench and called it her spot. I missed my children, but I needed my mom, and there she was. Thank you, Mom, for carrying me through the winter storm to spring: I am healing as the flowers bloom. *ANNE-MARIE LINNEN*

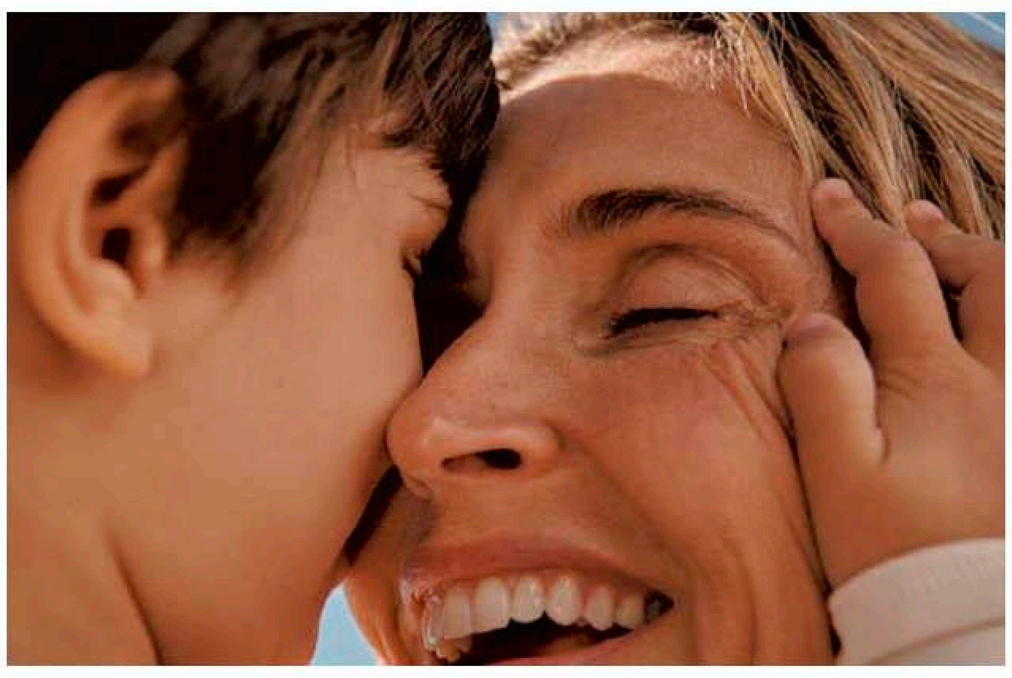
For more readers' stories and to submit your own: nytimes.com/tinylovestories






SWEAT LIKE A TRAILBLAZER,
LIKE A FREESTYLER, LIKE A WARRIOR,
LIKE A MOTHER.

PUSH LIKE A BELIEVER,
LIKE A HEALER, LIKE A LEADER,
LIKE A MOTHER.

RISE LIKE A RISK TAKER,
LIKE A RULE BREAKER, LIKE A RECORD SHAKER,
LIKE A MOTHER.

ATHLETA

Reviving a Campus Tradition That Has Ridges

Senior corduroys, the details hand-drawn, first appeared in Indiana.

By CHRISTOPHER BARNARD

The fashion designer Emily Adams Bode Aujla bought her first pair of senior corduroy pants from a vintage-clothing seller in 2013 when she was a senior at the New School. The pants style had by then been around for more than a century.

Senior cords seem to have first appeared at Purdue University in Indiana in the early 1900s, according to an archivist at the university, and evolved to become a sort of wearable yearbook for college and high school seniors in the state.

The students would use corduroy clothes — typically pants and skirts in cream or yellow — as canvases that were illustrated with favorite activities, sweethearts' initials and other personal details. The practice continued for decades before it started to die out in the 1970s.

In 2018, about two years after Ms. Bode Aujla started her ready-to-wear brand Bode, which includes pieces made with antique materials and historical techniques like quilting, she started selling custom senior cords in an attempt to revive the tradition.

"We are acting as conservationists and preservationists to ensure this story is continued to be told," Ms. Bode Aujla, 33, said.

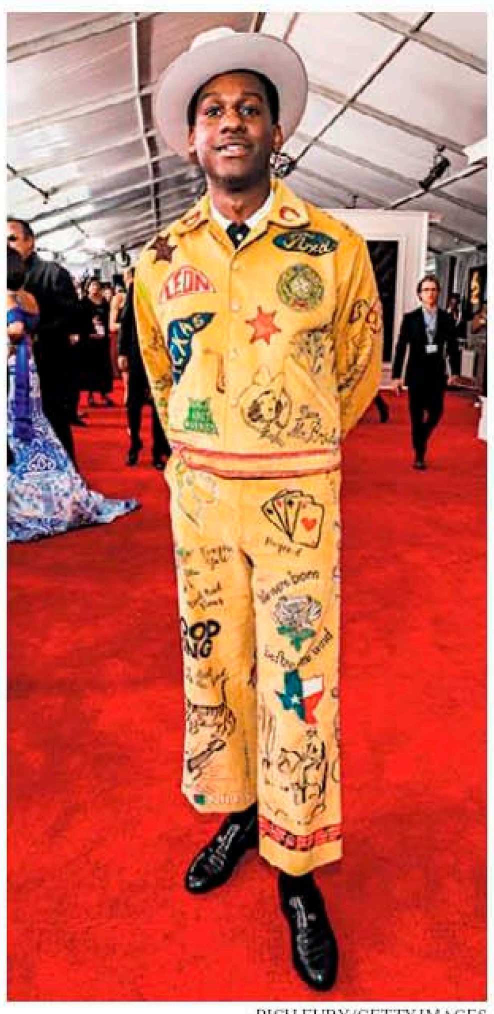
In 2019, the singer Leon Bridges wore a Bode senior cord suit to the Grammy Awards. Its illustrations featured his first name in red letters, playing cards and the Ford logo. The next year, a shirtless Harry Styles wore a pair of senior cord pants with drawings including a butterfly and a heart in the December 2020 issue of Vogue.

Last fall, the actor Jeff Goldblum appeared on the "Today" show in a Bode senior cord suit that featured illustrations of a Pittsburgh Steelers pennant, pancakes and a "Jurassic Park" logo. Earlier this year, Indiana University bought a senior cord jacket from the brand, and Bode sent along matching pants as well.

The Bode garments can include dozens of hand-drawn details, which are typically a mix of images, letters and numbers. After the Vogue issue with Mr. Styles, Ms. Bode Aujla said, her brand got requests to make other pieces with similar illustrations. But Bode avoids replicating drawings. Each piece, Ms. Bode Aujla said, "is someone's personal cord."

On a recent afternoon at Bode's offices in Brooklyn, four illustrators wielding fabric markers sat around a table covered with jackets made of corn-colored corduroy. One of the artists was drawing a blue bird, while another refined a poodle's fluffy tufts of hair.

"People love portraits of their



RICH FURY/GETTY IMAGES



Social Q's | PHILIP GALANES

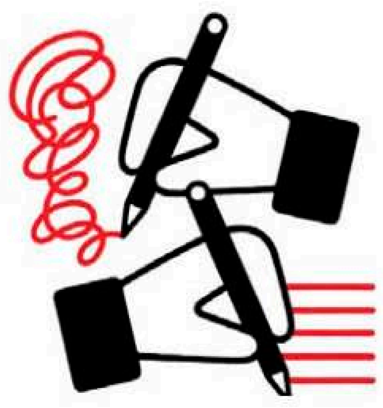
Say No to a Prenup?

I have been dating my boyfriend for three years; we've been living together for two of them. Last week, he said we should get married and that he wants a prenuptial agreement. I have always paid my way in our relationship, so I was surprised. He has more money than I do, but it's not exorbitant, "Succession"-type wealth. I agreed to his request because I was taught to be financially independent, but now I resent him for it. I'm nervous about what's to come rather than excited to get married. Can I push back on this?

GIRLFRIEND

Were there any hearts and flowers in your boyfriend's proposal, or was it all prenup? I get it if you buried the romantic bits because you're distraught by the financial proposition. But if there was no sweetness in it: Red flag! Otherwise, let's dig into prenuptial agreements, which are less scary than many people think.

About 40 percent of marriages end in divorce. So whether your boyfriend managed to save $50,000 or inherit $50 million (still chump change for the nepo babies on "Succession"), I understand his impulse. Asking to



protect his premarital assets and divide those you create together, which is largely in keeping with divorce law, doesn't make him a doomsayer about your relationship any more than buying fire insurance makes him an arsonist. Stuff happens — about 40 percent of the time.

I am not generally a fan of prenups for people without big assets or liabilities, or children from previous relationships. Life is unpredictable. One of you may hit a career jackpot. Or parenthood may depress a spouse's earnings. But these things may not happen for years — if at all. Complex prenups that divide assets before they exist or cap support payments before there's a track record of earnings are silly — and often unfair to the poorer spouse. Ask your boyfriend what he's worried about, and then hire a lawyer and hash it out. Don't be bullied into a prenup, though: You can't marry the guy if you can't agree on what's fair.

At the Risk of Upsetting Mom

Through a series of unfortunate events — including drug misuse and a moving vehicle — my brother is in jail awaiting trial. The problem: Our mother recently moved into an assisted-living facility. She is just getting acclimated; she also just asked about my brother, who normally visits her. He wants me to help arrange a phone call with her, but I don't want to do that unless he promises not to mention his legal troubles. I think it would be too upsetting for her. My brother refuses to make that promise. What should I do?

OLDER SON

I know you want to protect your mother, and I respect that. But you haven't shared anything that entitles you to control her relationship with your brother — a heart condition, for instance, or an anxiety disorder. Consult with a therapist at her facility about the possible effects of your brother's news or arrange for him to have that conversation. I'm sure his situation will upset her. Don't assume your mother can't handle it, though, simply because she needs some help with daily living.

Just Don't Go There

I bumped into a neighbor in the lobby of our building. I hadn't seen her for a while, but it was obvious she had undergone extensive cosmetic surgery. Not to be judgmental, but I can't imagine she thinks no one notices. I felt uncomfortable having a conversation without first addressing the elephant on her face. And it seemed disingenuous to say: "You look wonderful! What have you done?" How would you handle this?

NEIGHBOR

Cards on the table: I am appalled by your question, though I'm sure you are sincere. By your own account, this woman is an acquaintance whom you bump into occasionally, not a close friend. Why on earth do you feel entitled to comment on her appearance, much less claim that it's a prerequisite to other conversation?

Unless neighbors ask you specifically about their changed appearance, say nothing. As for conversation starters, go anodyne: "I haven't seen you in ages! How are you?" Our acquaintances know if they've had cosmetic surgery. They don't need us to tell them.

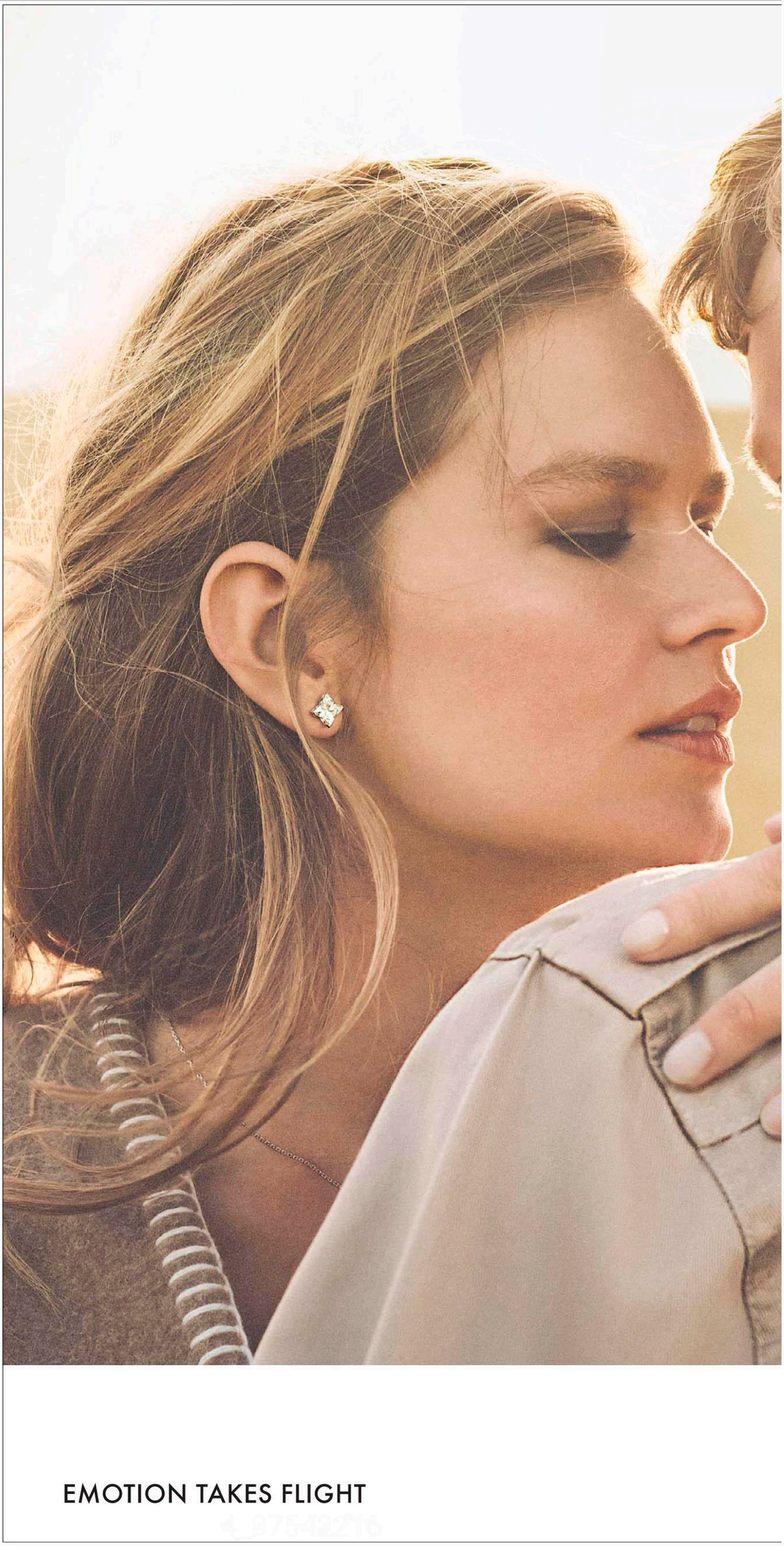
The Job Was a Flop. You're Not.

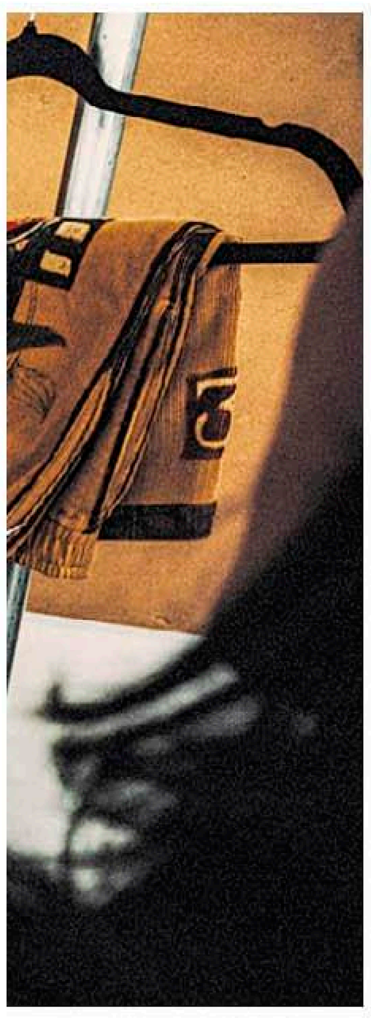
After years as a homemaker, I finally found a job I was excited about and announced it to family and friends. But the job turned out to be a major disappointment, and I quit six weeks later. I haven't told anyone because I'm embarrassed that it fizzled so quickly. Now, people are asking about my exciting new job that I left weeks ago. It's getting uncomfortable. What should I say?

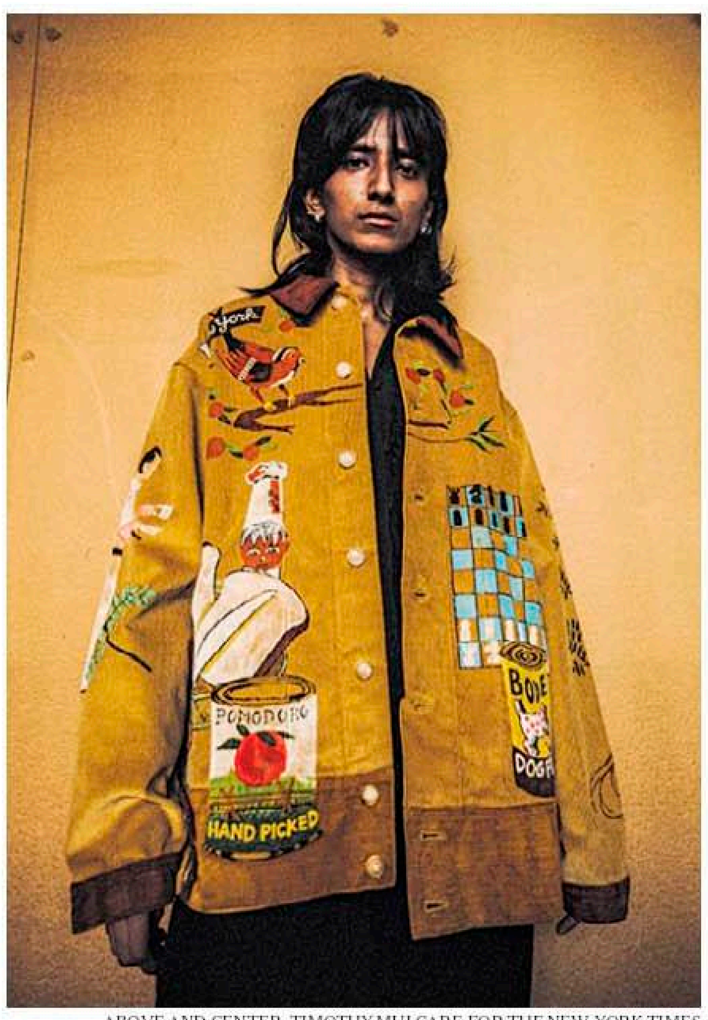
EMBARRASSED

Go with the truth: "It didn't work out." And stop beating yourself up. You are hardly the first person to be disappointed by the realities of a shiny new job.

For help with your awkward situation, send a question to SocialQ@nytimes.com, to Philip Galanes on Facebook or @SocialQPhilip on Twitter.







ABOVE AND CENTER, TIMOTHY MULCARE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

From far left: Leon Bridges in a Bode senior cord suit; an example; Aayushi Khowala, Bode's director of illustration.

pets," Aayushi Khowala, Bode's director of illustration, said.

Ms. Khowala, 25, leads the team that produces Bode's senior cord products. Raised in Kolkata, India, she studied printmaking and textiles at Rhode Island School of Design, and started working at Bode as a design assistant in 2019, after graduating from college.

Though her job now involves less illustrating, Ms. Khowala's drawings have been featured on many senior cord pieces, including the pants Mr. Styles wore in Vogue. "I pulled an all-nighter for that," she said.

Bode's senior cords, made with corduroy from a mill in Britain, include notebooks (starting at $73) and pillows (starting at $268) as well as two jacket styles (both $2,100), shorts ($640), pants ($1,498) and a coat for babies ($428). Bode's illustrators also produce senior cord sofas and stool cushions with Green River Project, a furniture and interiors company co-founded by Ms. Bode Aujla's husband.

Occasionally, Bode hosts events where customers can have the drawings on their senior cords modified for free. The tradition on campuses was often communal, with students getting together to draw on each others' cords.

Adriana Harmeyer, the archivist for university history at Purdue, said the practice of drawing on the garments took off in the 1940s. Ms. Harmeyer said the first senior cords were reportedly worn in 1904, when two Purdue seniors had some pants made with a yellow corduroy fabric at Taylor Steffen Co., a tailor near the university.

"By the time the class of 1905 was establishing their class traditions, the senior cords were a part of that," Ms. Harmeyer said.

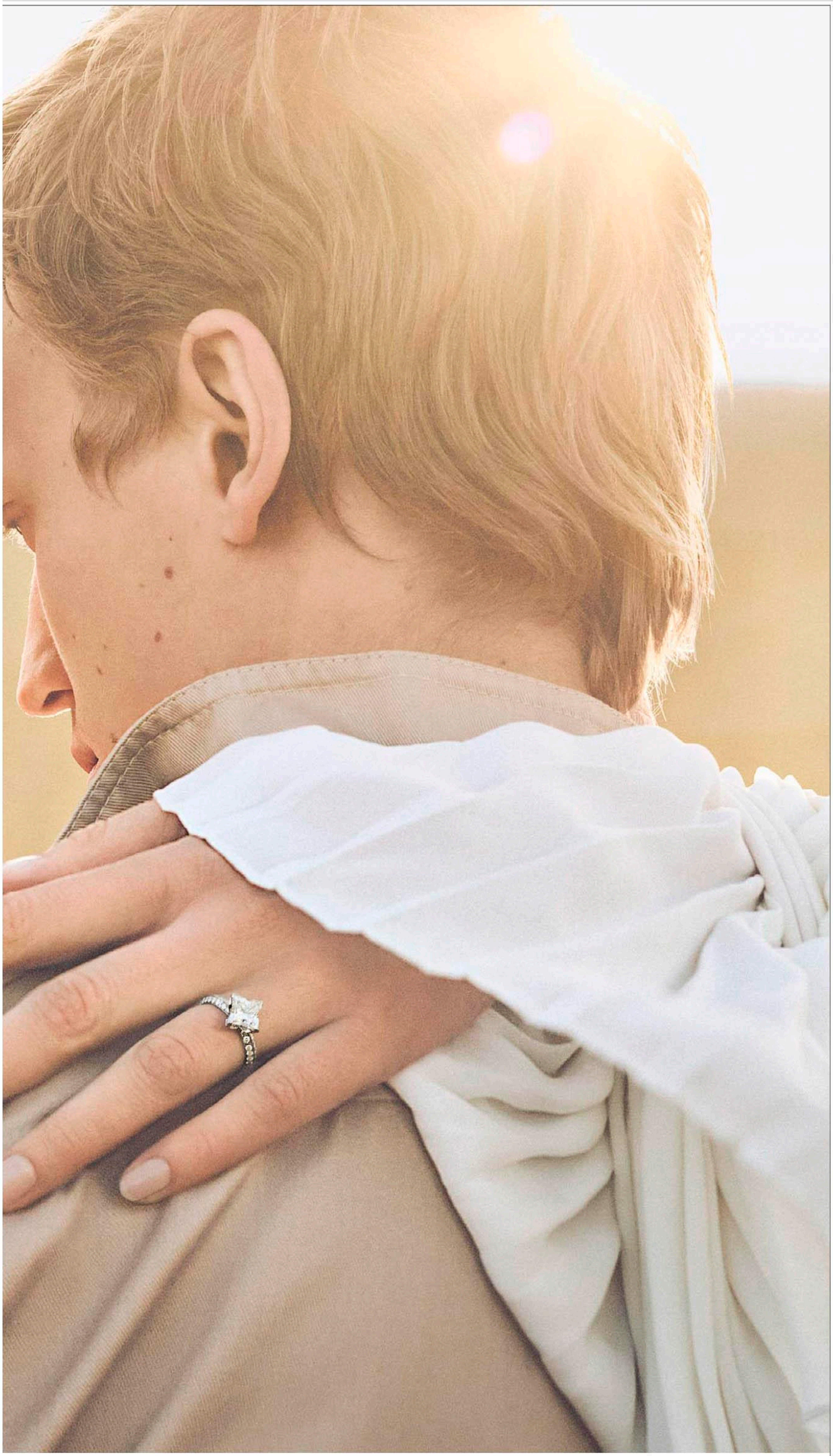
Mary Figueroa, the curator of history at the Indiana State Museum, said the illustrations on senior cords became more elaborate as the tradition reached its peak in the 1960s. "When you get to the late '60s, you start seeing airbrushing, and people start making them really pop," she said.

At Noblesville High School in Noblesville, Ind., some students still carry on the tradition, but with garments made of white denim instead of corduroy. Marnie Cooke, a spokeswoman for Noblesville schools, whose daughter is a senior at the high school, said the cords were a celebration of friendship and a way for students to express their personalities and artistic visions.

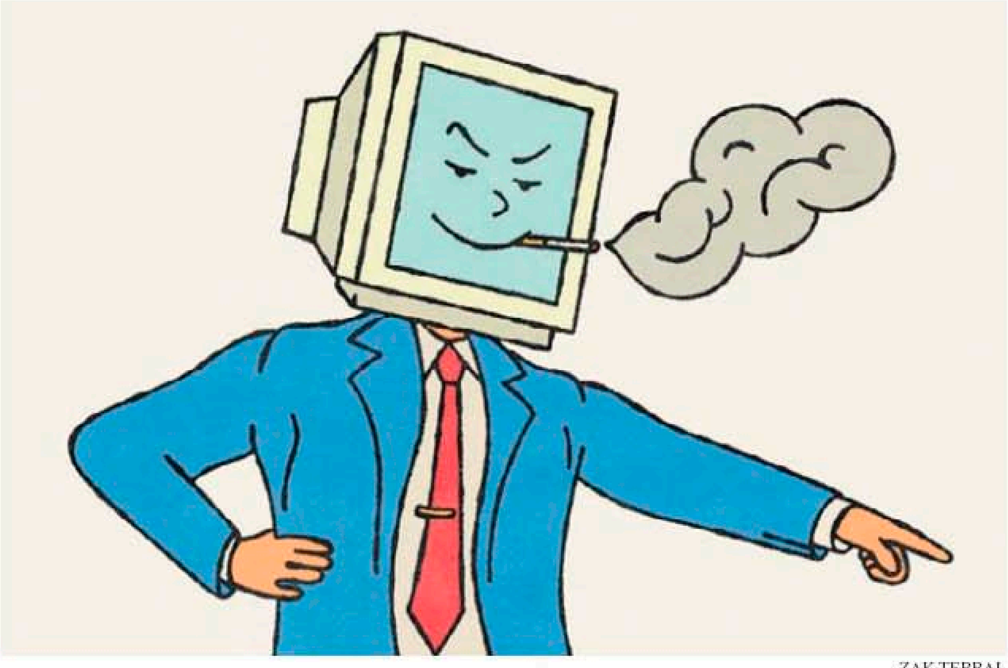
Though most of Bode's senior cord products can take up to eight weeks to make, it takes only days to complete a drawing. Determining what to draw, however, can take longer. Ordering a custom piece involves an email questionnaire that often leads to lengthy exchanges as designs are refined. Bode, which also sells some senior cords with illustrations chosen by the brand at a slightly lower cost, is not the only American label to embrace the tradition. Ralph Lauren has featured stories on its website about the garments' history at Purdue, and has made yellow corduroy pants printed with graphics that recall the drawings on senior cords.

Ms. Khowala said the design process for custom Bode cords could make some customers emotional. "People are like, 'Oh I cried typing this out to you,'" she said.

Ms. Bode Aujla thinks some of the beauty of the cords is tied to how the process can feel like a therapy session. "People would be like, 'I've never told this story' or 'Nobody knows this about me,'" she said.



LOUIS VUITTON
LV DIAMONDS



ZAK TEBBAL

Closet Calculations From a Stodgy Aide

An artificial intelligence chatbot was enlisted to provide fashion advice.

By EMMA GRILLO

Since I first watched the movie "Clueless," I've dreamed about the closet of the main character, Cher Horowitz: specifically, the outfit-picking computer.

This sort of ease in getting dressed, where outfits are dictated by an algorithm, can be enticing. Dress codes shift regularly — the pandemic brought major changes — and people often fret over what to wear.

The "Clueless" closet was purely fictional back when the movie was released in 1995. Now, though, artificial intelligence has become not only capable but also increasingly commonplace. Could ChatGPT, an artificial intelligence chatbot, help out?

As my colleagues at The New York Times have reported, the type of artificial intelligence that powers ChatGPT is called a large language model, or L.L.M. The technology is complex, but essentially, ChatGPT has been trained to respond conversationally to users by being fed huge amounts of text data, including books, articles and conversations.

I decided to see if I could use ChatGPT-3.5, the publicly available version of the chatbot, as my own "Clueless"-style closet computer. The bot can only understand and respond to text, meaning I could ask it specific questions about what I should wear in different situations.

To start, I asked: What should I wear to my office job? The answers, at first, were vague. For an office job, women should wear "a dress, a blouse with dress pants or a skirt" and "modest and comfortable shoes," and men should wear "a suit and tie or dress pants and a dress shirt with a jacket."

The more specific my questions were, the more specific the chatbot's answers were. I asked it to plan an outfit for me, a 28-year-old woman who works at a news organization, to wear to the office.

The chatbot came up with tailored black dress pants, a white button-up blouse, a black blazer and a pair of black closed-toe pumps. That same day, I was sitting in my office wearing a band T-shirt, a long silk skirt and leather clogs.

When I asked about the outfit I actually wore to work, ChatGPT pushed back. A band T-shirt, it informed me, was not appropriate to wear to work because it "may send the wrong message about your professionalism." Noted.

(In fairness to the bot, it also said several times that work dress codes could vary, and that if I was unsure about mine, I should check with a supervisor or the H.R. department.)

I started asking about other types of clothing that I've worn in the workplace. When I described the midthigh-length dress I wore a few years ago for my job interview at The Times, the chatbot was not impressed. "A midthigh dress may distract the interviewer's attention and draw focus away from your skills and qualifications as a candidate," the chatbot warned me. I guess I won't be hired at its company anytime soon?

When I changed my age, the chatbot suggested different types of outfits. A 21-year-old woman should wear a statement dress, like a sequined mini, to her birthday party, it said. A 29-year-old woman celebrating her birthday, however, should try a "chic jumpsuit," and a 58-year-old woman should wear a "knee-length shift dress in a classic print, like polka dots or stripes."

The outfit for the 21-year-old, according to the chatbot, would let the wearer "be the center of attention on your special day," while the older ages elicited outfits that would "help you feel confident and stylish on your special day." (At least it was still a "special" day no matter how old you are turning — just not sequin-level special.)

I started asking questions about situations I'd been in where I wore something that went against the norm. Was it appropriate to wear a white dress to a wedding as part of the wedding party,

Some sartorial tips betray a deference to dated dress codes.

which I did a few months ago?

"It's best to avoid wearing white to a wedding as a guest or as part of the wedding party, as this color is traditionally reserved for the bride," the chatbot said. It suggested that if I really wanted to wear white, I should check with the bride to see if it would be OK. Which, had I asked this question before the wedding, would have been tricky — there were no brides at this particular wedding, just grooms.

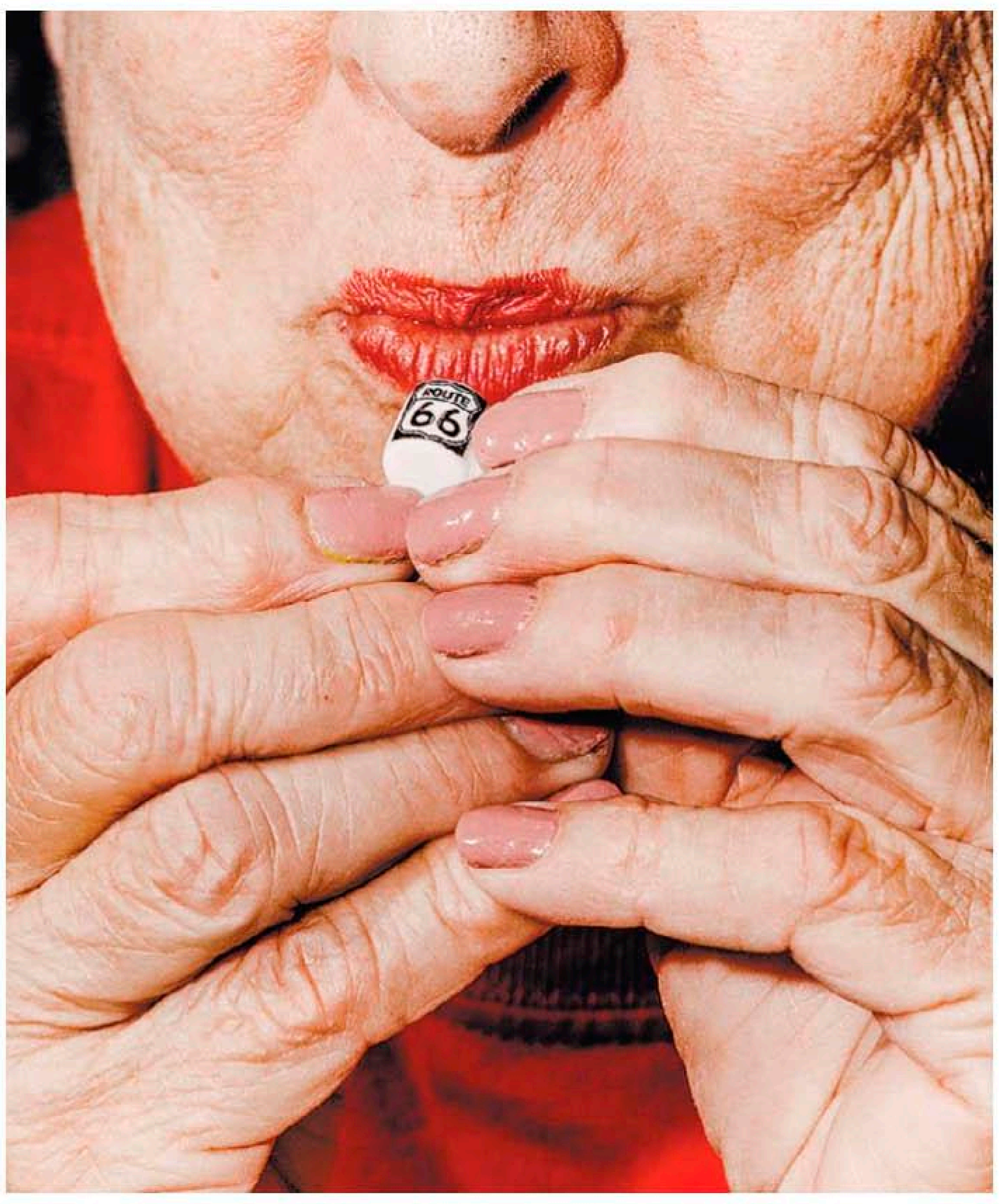
The chatbot was often diplomatic in its nonanswers. When I asked what to wear to be the most effective boss, the chatbot told me that it "cannot give a definite answer because the 'most effective' clothing style for a boss varies depending on various factors."

Similarly, when I asked what the best brand to wear is, the chatbot responded, "I don't have personal preferences or biases toward any particular brand." Maybe be because the chatbot never actually gets dressed.

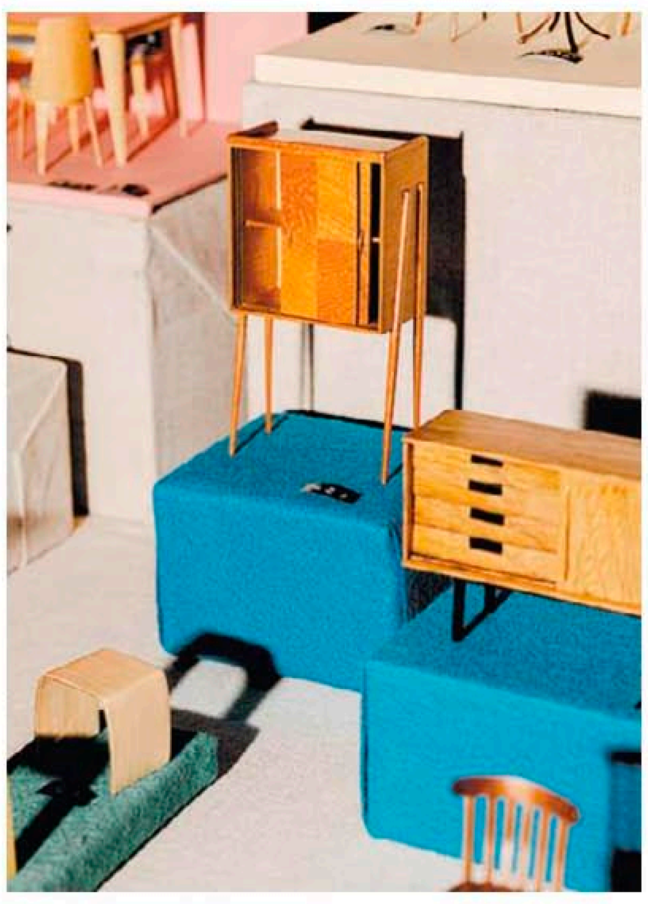
And when I asked if it could plan an outfit for me to wear every day — say, in the style of Elizabeth Holmes, the founder of Theranos who was convicted of fraud in 2022 — the chatbot said: "It's worth noting that Elizabeth Holmes's personal and professional conduct is not something to be emulated, and it is important to focus on ethical business practices and personal integrity rather than just on appearance."

Still, it gave me suggestions for what to wear: a black turtleneck, black dress pants, black ankle boots and straight hair with a center part.

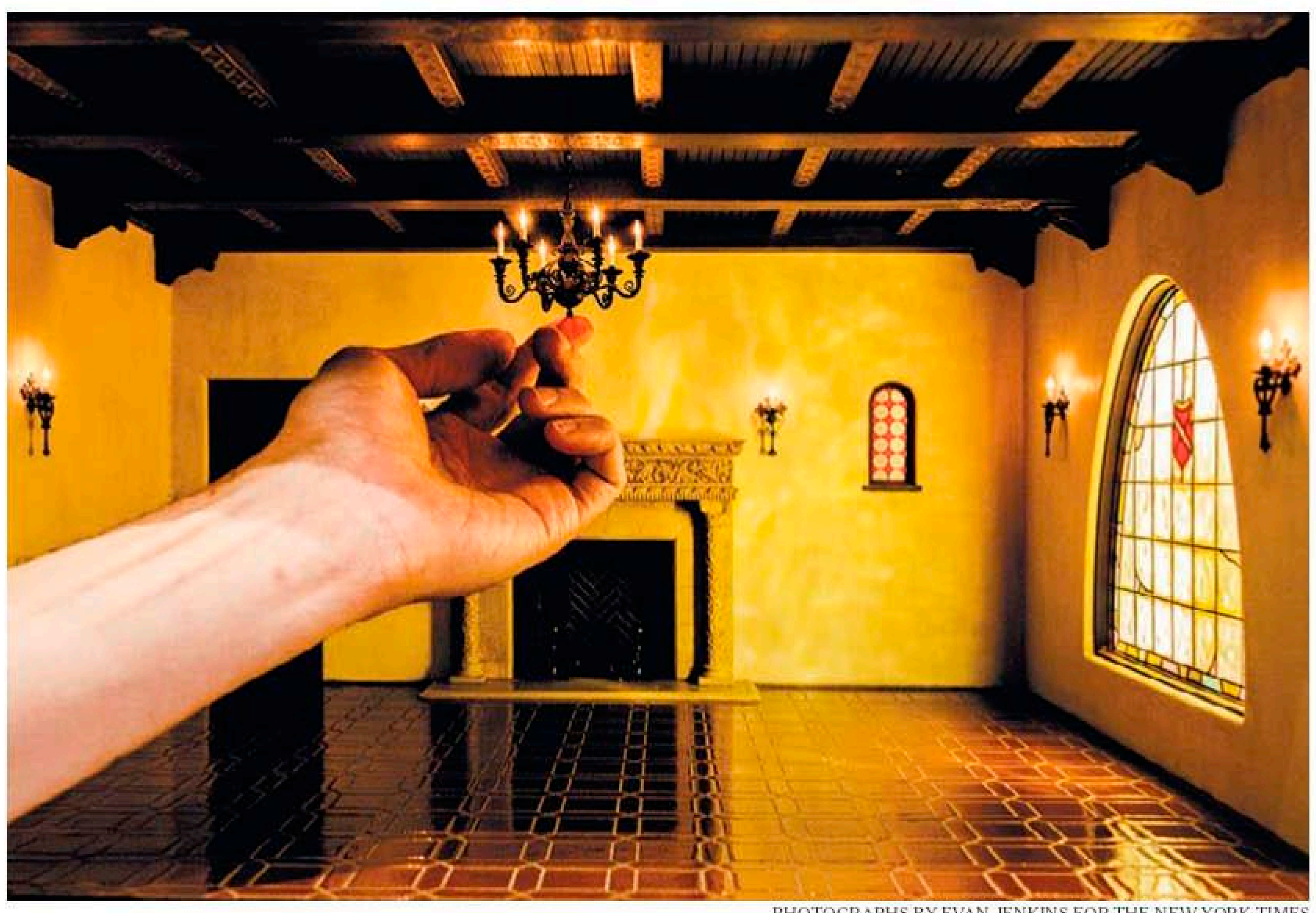
A Huge Obsession for Tiny Things











PHOTOGRAPHS BY EVAN JENKINS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Clockwise from above: a tiny Route 66 mug; a boggling variety of items; midcentury-style furniture by Fine Miniature Furniture; a Spanish-style home interior with fireplace and stained glass by Chris Toledo Miniatures; hand-sewn leather motorcycle jackets.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

three large conference rooms, with hallway spillover. The weeklong event, from April 24 to 30, included ticketed workshops with themes like "Lobsterfest" (focused on making miniature lobster boil accouterments); trade shows; and three days of ticketed shopping for the public.

Mr. Bishop estimates he has done over 500 miniatures shows around the world, though in recent years he has downsized to only Chicago, which has been a recurrent stop for nearly 40 years. Even the hotel itself is personal for Mr. Bishop: It's where he and his wife, Leni, 77, spent the first night of their honeymoon.

In 1977, the duo relocated from Chicago to Margate, Fla., where they opened their dollhouse store, Miniland, before closing it in 1984 to focus their attention on traveling conventions. Mr. Bishop, who also worked for American Airlines for 17 years, was inspired to create his own show after attending others that "weren't run very well," he said.

"The largest miniature dollhouse convention" may sound like a silly distinction to some, but it is no joking matter for the sellers. For many, the Tom Bishop show is where they hope to make the bulk of their annual sales.

'Did I come with a budget? Yes. Did I stay to it? No.'

Teri, 77, of Teri's Mini Workshop, who declined to give her last name, said she wouldn't have been able to showcase her miniature nacho cheese machines, plates of gefilte fish or medical supplies (about $10) had a booth not dropped out at the last minute. She hoped her soft power would be her low pricing, in contrast to some other tables, where pieces can go for hundreds of dollars a pop.

If a collector wants something one of a kind, it might sell out on the first day, said Becky Evert, 68, a customer who had traveled from Denver with friends for the event. "Did I come with a budget? Yes," she said. "Did I stay to it? No." Of her seven years in attendance, it was the largest crowd she had seen.

Beth Pothen, 42, who runs Mountain Creek Miniatures and is a full-time postal worker, is a second-generation miniaturist, making items like goth furniture and Christmas cookie trays (she got her start at a Girl Scouts craft fair). She drove from Spokane, Wash., for the convention and hoped to recoup the cost of travel and labor, and then some, she said. Individual tables cost $325, and some opt to have two at their booth, according to Mr. Bishop.

While there's value in breadth like that of Ms. Pothen's, others distinguish themselves with a more niche focus. Kristin Castenschiold, 41, of Heartfelt Canines in Green Village, N.J., made a name for herself selling miniature dogs on Etsy — "I get some of the hair from a friend who is a pet groomer," she said — and has since expanded to all kinds of furry friends, miniature light-up aquariums and trompe l'oeil cat litter boxes.

Margie Criner, 53, of Chicago's Itty Bitty Mini Mart, makes miniatures as part of her full-time fine art practice (she's currently on display at the traveling show "Small Is Beautiful"), but wanted a way to make her work more accessible. Her tiny items, which include translucent Jell-O and teensy records from the rock band Television, are







Clockwise from left: Margie Criner and Brian Schuth of Itty Bitty Mini (M)art with their midcentury electronic devices; food items from Twin Heart Miniatures; Tom Bishop, the convention's founder.

inspired by items she had growing up.

Ms. Criner is a part of a new generation of miniature makers, following in the footsteps of artists like Laurie Simmons, bringing the genre out from the home, into the gallery — with designs more modern and cheeky than the antiquarian selections that once came to define the miniature world.

While it can be hard to stand out, everyone described the world of miniature selling and buying as quite collaborative and joyful, and there are many reasons people have become obsessive collectors and makers.

Anita Hobson, 63, a customer from Belleville, Ill., said she came to the Tom Bishop convention with her husband to find items to add to the dollhouse her mother had started before she died. She became giddy over a working clothespin sold by Maria Fowler from the Little Dollhouse Company in Toronto.

Morgan Cressey, 30, was one of the convention's youngest adult customers in attendance. Ms. Cressey, who works as a nanny and server, had traveled from Spokane alone that weekend to stock up for her collection, a pastime she became fascinated with through her mother's childhood miniatures.

A sense of community is a huge draw for people. Veronica Morales of Vero's Miniatures said that the show was her big chance to sell in the United States, which has a more robust miniatures market than Mexico City, where she is based. For Tom Bishop this year, Ms. Morales sold miniatures of an ofrenda, an altar for deceased relatives, and piñatas, among other items she makes with her family.

The current state of the miniatures scene is encouraging, according to Barbara Davis, 76, a retired principal who is the director of the school for the International Guild of Miniature Artisans, where many of the convention's makers had either taken courses or taught.

"There's a surge of people doing such a variety of creative miniatures," said Ms. Davis, who attributed the change to younger and more diverse makers entering the industry. She added that the guild's school, held in Castine, Maine, had its largest enrollment last year in its more than four decades.

Mr. Bishop said he had already signed an agreement for the next two years with the Marriott Chicago O'Hare. But it remains up in the air whether his children — Rachel, 48, and Rebecca, 51, neither of whom works in miniatures professionally — will want to take the reins when Mr. Bishop, 82, is no longer the showman.

In the meantime, Mr. Bishop is excited by the current state of affairs. As he prepared for this year's convention, he recalled telling his wife that he hardly knows all the attendees anymore. "They're all new," he said. "It's growing again." One tiny item at a time.

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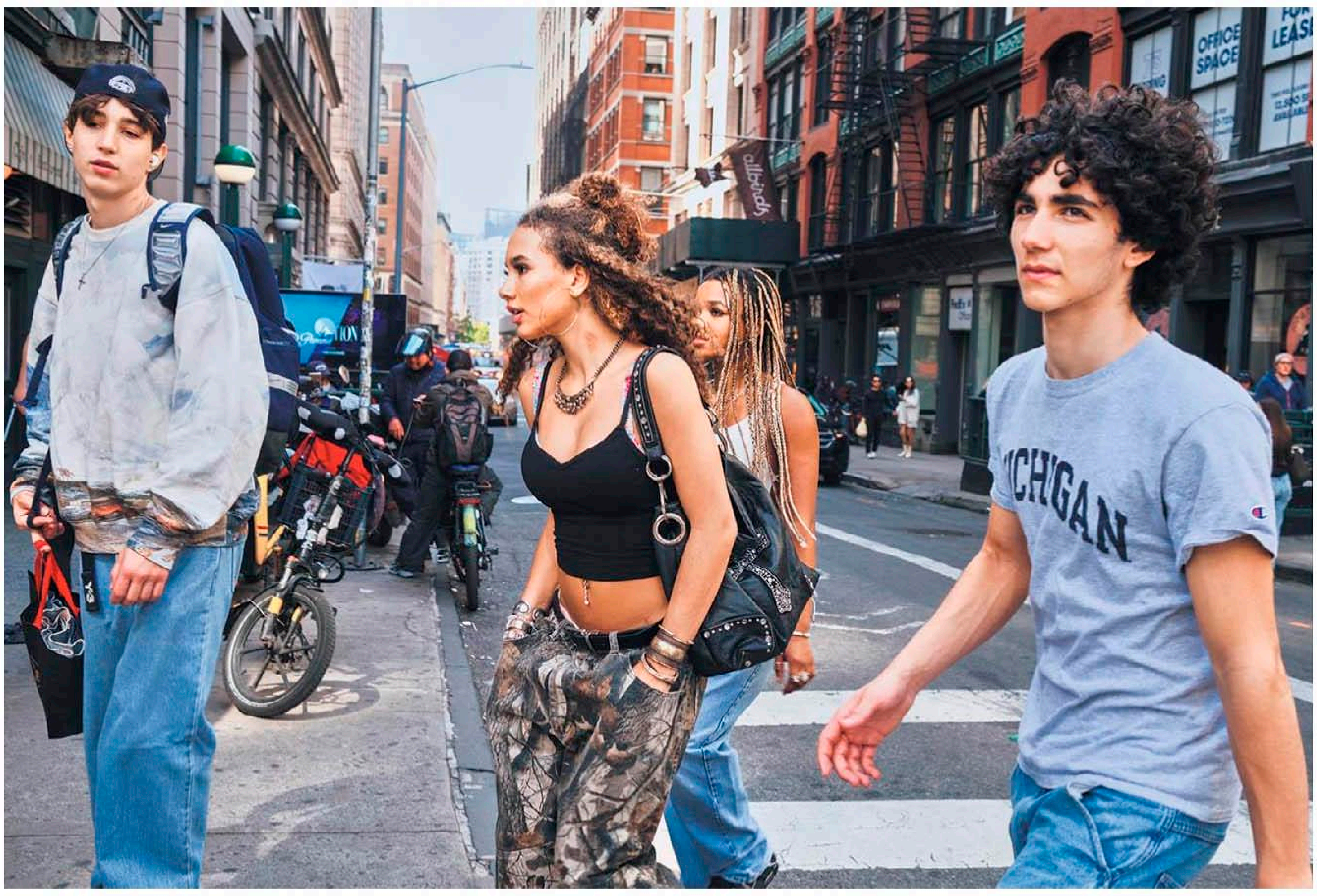
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STYLE OUTSIDE



Spring Dressing Isn't Impossible

Photographs and Text
by SIMBARASHE CHA

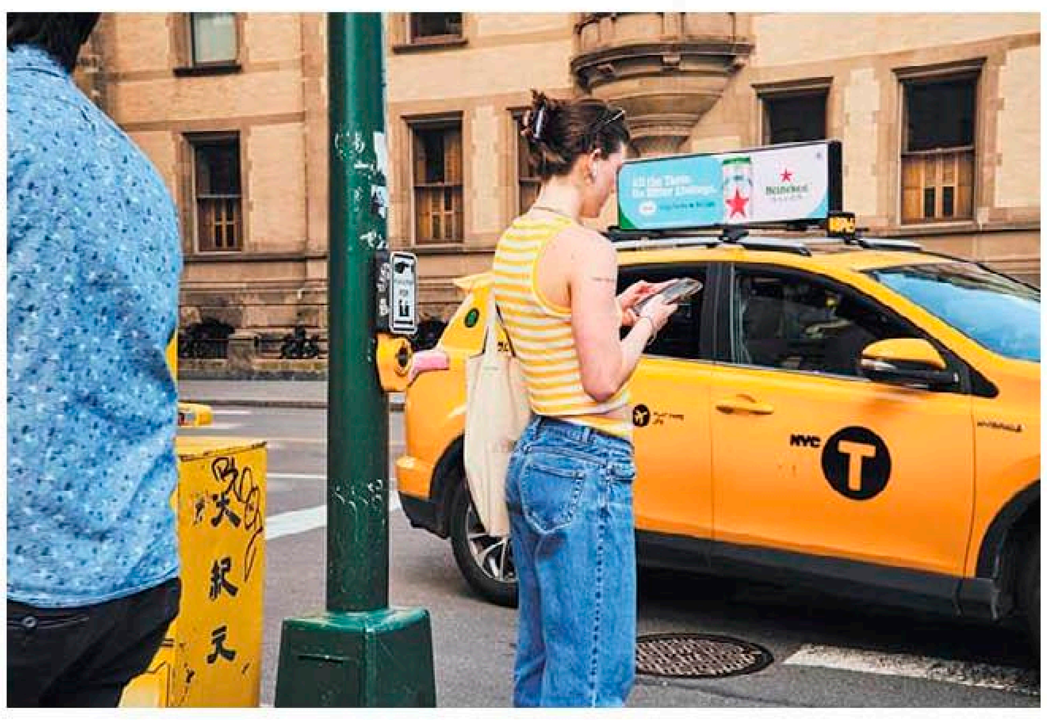
Thanks to a popular saying, most people in New York expect April showers. Almost as predictable: the confusion over how to dress in the transitional weeks of spring, when the temperature can go from cold to warm to hot, sometimes in a single day.

The style on the streets has been all over the place. People in winter coats were standing next to people in shorts. The most telling sign of spring might have been that, with many outfits, there was an umbrella.

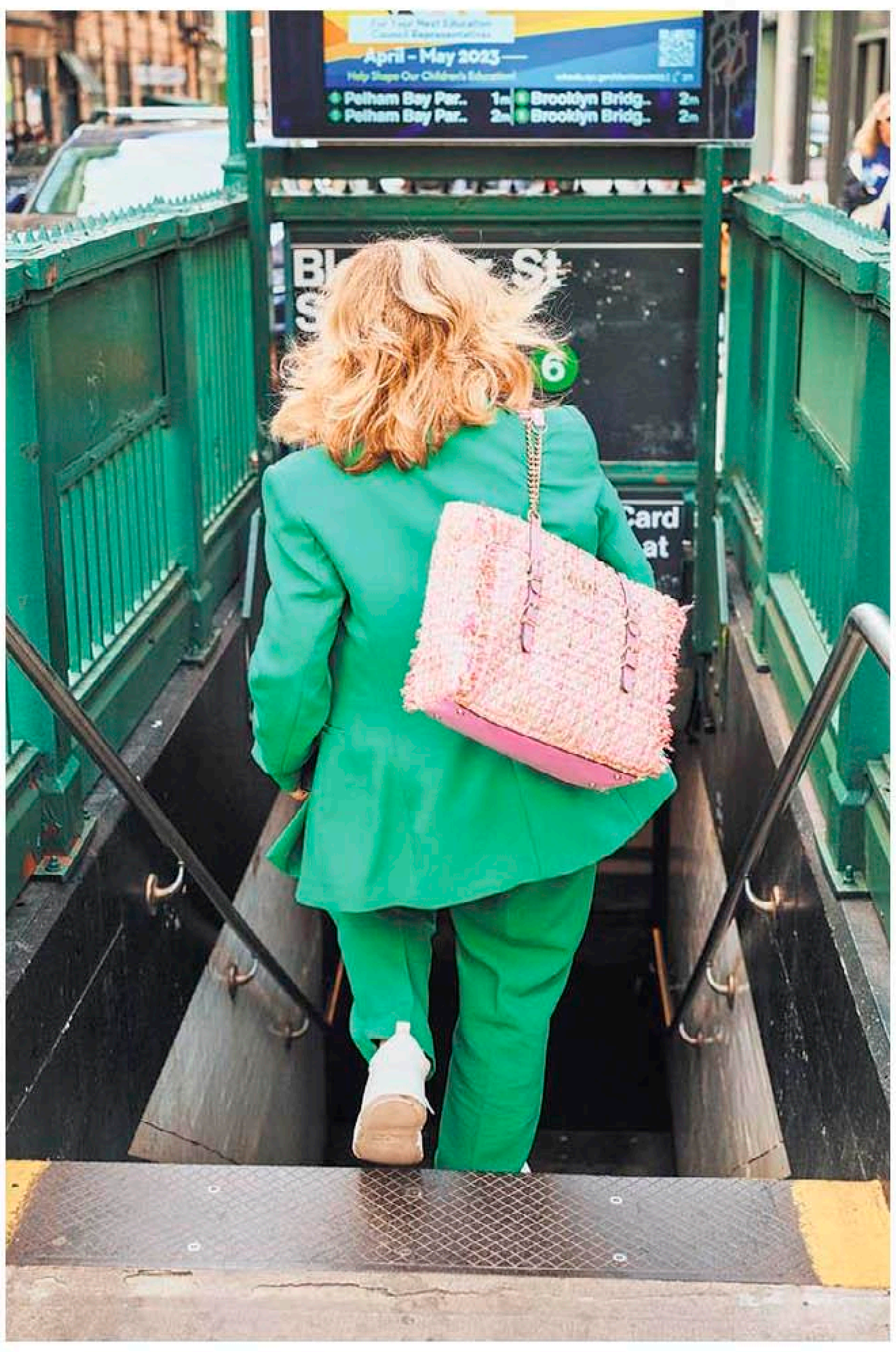
But there were other sartorial cues that signaled the arrival of warmer days. Beige and white became more ubiquitous shades than gray and black. Bare shoulders shared the street with oversize blazers. Most people seemed to follow few if any rules when getting dressed, except for embracing the season's unpredictability.

As one passer-by in SoHo put it, "It's going to be nice for two weeks, and then we're going to get killed by the summer heat."















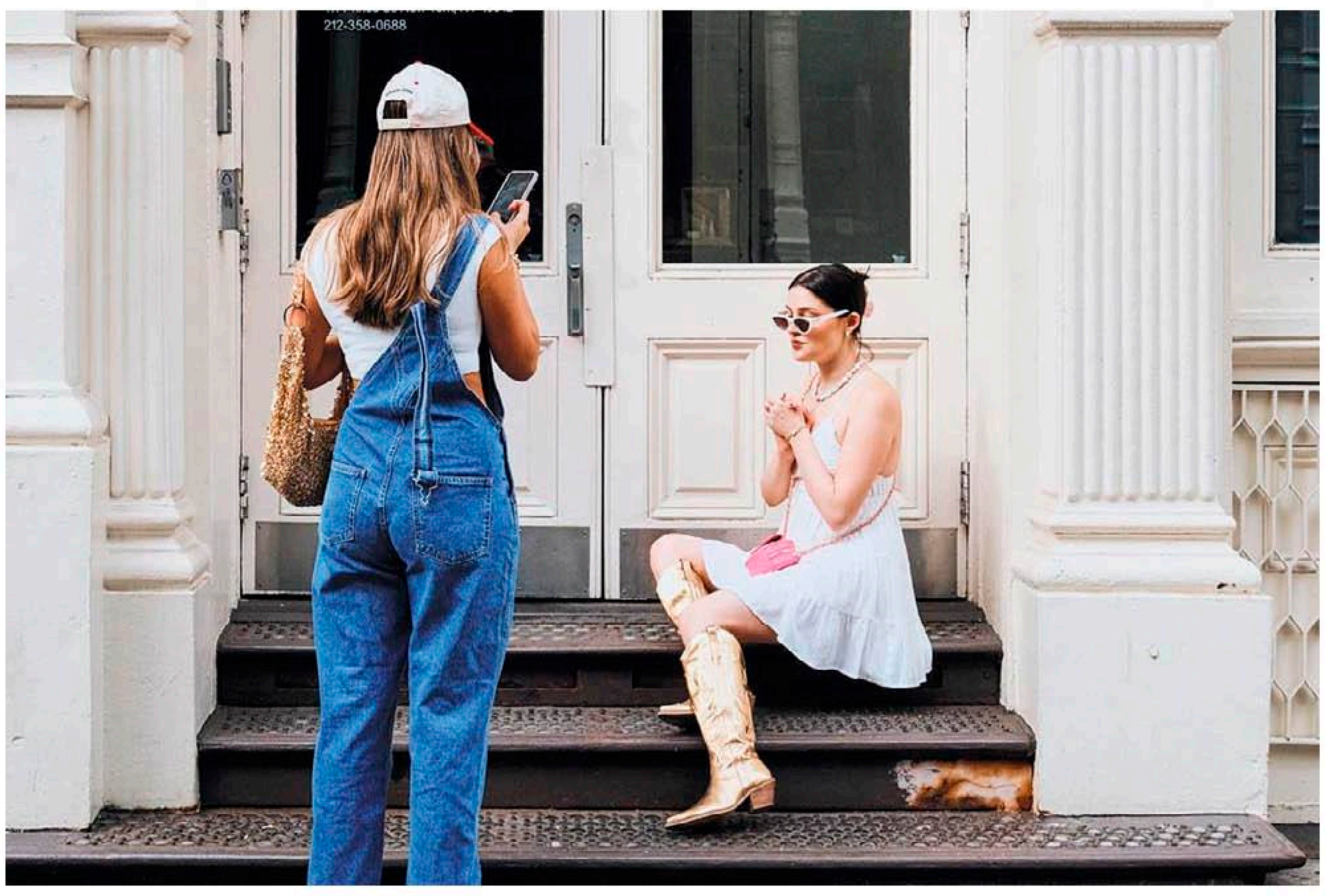
Top left, in a sea of jeans, be the camo pants. Second row from left: Why bother with a shirt when the vest deserves all the attention?; her top is part of a matching striped set; a bob can make relaxed clothes edgier, even when covered by a bucket hat. Above, her green power suit practically screamed spring — and money.











Third row from left: The reds of her hair and bag really popped against the clear eyeglass frames and white tank; attitude and a good hat enhance an outfit; when styled correctly, odds and ends like a red ribbon and a safety pin can make great finishing touches. Above from left: No outfits are too simple for a statement necklace, or three; the chain necklace cut the sweetness of her colorful solids and stripes; his outfit was expertly coordinated. Left, those gold boots were made for snapping. Right, her look was effortless, from head wrap to slouchy socks.

Vows

VERONICA SAVAGE and ANDE FLOWER

After a Dating Hiatus, Embracing Something New

By LOUISE RAFKIN

For Ande Flower, the first year of the pandemic coincided conveniently with a personal commitment to staying single. Mr. Flower began transitioning from female to male in 2018, after a move from Seattle to Pacific Grove, Calif., for a new job. At the turn of 2020, he began a new chapter of his life publicly living as a man.

To allow time to adapt to this huge change, Mr. Flower, an urban planner focused on affordable housing in the Central California region, vowed to spend the year getting to know himself. "No dating," he promised. Instead, he spent time meditating, kayaking on nearby Monterey Bay and biking the windy roads around Pebble Beach.

Toward the end of the year, he looked in the mirror and "finally recognized myself," he said. So, in December 2020, he cautiously ventured onto OkCupid and quickly became captivated by Veronica Savage's unique dating profile.

In one photo she was riding a unicycle wearing a T-shirt that read "Black and Nerdy"; in another, she was in Uganda on a gorilla trek. Ms. Savage's extensive — some might say encyclopedic — profile proclaimed a love of travel, an open mind and a decades-long passion for music. "I'm a wannabe rock star with my head in the clouds," she wrote. "I'll try anything once short of jumping out of a plane."

Friendship came naturally, but romance was more difficult to foresee.

"Veronica was clearly adventurous, and I could tell she didn't take herself too seriously," said Mr. Flower, 51. The idiosyncratic autobiography made him all too ready for his year of self-reflection to be over.

Coincidently, Ms. Savage, 56, was also keen to put 2020 in the rearview mirror. A whirlwind romance that had begun in 2019 had ended suddenly. "I was devastated and embarrassed and needed to focus on what I truly wanted in a partner," she said. So, she, too, had spent time during the pandemic soul-searching.

Swiping on each other triggered a volley of fun texts. Mr. Flower's profile was brief, but Ms. Savage was intrigued by his bright smile. "I'm quirky," Ms. Savage said, with a laugh. "Also, in my head, I'm 36, but in reality, I fall into the old lady category."

During their first phone conversation, which seemed unusually easy to both, Mr. Flower floated the idea of attending an online meditation course "together." But during the class, she was puzzled by Mr. Flower's preference for male pronouns; she remembered nothing about gender in his profile. "I honestly didn't catch that Ande was trans," she said.

After the meditation class, Mr. Flower called Ms. Savage to ask if him being transgender was a problem for her.

"I guess not," Ms. Savage replied.

But in truth, Ms. Savage was flummoxed; her entire identity and social life in Oakland, Calif., was built around the lesbian and women's music communities. After a childhood in Rocky Mount, N.C., Ms. Savage, now a senior quality engineer at a Bay Area tech company, had lived in several Southern cities and London before landing in the Bay Area in 1993. There, with a former female partner, she raised a daughter, now 20 and attending the University of Oregon.

She also immersed herself in the nascent lesbian punk music scene, playing bass and singing in multiple bands including the Hail Marys, Dolorata, MILF! the Band, and the Halford Wives, a Judas Priest cover band. She currently plays in Easy Queen, which is described on their website as "three fierce, feminist, funny folk forging fabulously funky rock."

In January 2021, on the exact anniversary of Mr. Flower's then-expiring no-dating vow, Ms. Savage agreed to a rendezvous in Santa Cruz, a coastal city midway between their homes. During a seaside stroll, they volleyed questions; Ms. Savage was curious about Mr. Flower's transition journey. "I asked maybe 800 offensive questions," she said. "And Ande rolled easily with every one of them."

While Ms. Savage didn't foresee a romantic future for the two of them, Mr. Flower, true to his sunny sensibility, remained optimistic about a relationship. His journey to becoming who he was and knowing what he wanted had been a long one. An athletic, social child with many friends, he was raised by a single mother in St. Cloud, Fla., and when young, was often mistaken for a boy. "That always delighted me," he said.

In 1994, then in his early 20s, he briefly was married to a man and gave birth to a daughter, now 29. Some people close to him assumed he was a lesbian, but that never felt right to him. "I longed to be with a woman, but preferred to be with a woman as a man," he said. "I am comfortable with who I am even if others aren't."

After earning a bachelor's degree in urban studies from the University of Washington Tacoma, he graduated with a master's in urban planning from the University of Washington in Seattle.

Ms. Savage found Mr. Flower understanding, empathetic and willing to talk through any issue with a full heart. "Quickly it felt like we had known each other a long time," she said.

A few months later, after intermittent correspondence, they eventually met again when Ms. Savage visited Mr. Flower at his home in Pacific Grove. That morning Mr. Flower had baked cinnamon rolls. Upon Ms. Savage's arrival, he enlisted her to help deliver the fresh buns to his neighbors and friends, a gesture that piqued Ms. Savage's attention.

"Who does that? Ande was so full of kindness and generosity," said Ms. Savage, whose resolve to remain just friends weakened with each hour spent together. That night the two stayed up late talking, but by morning their platonic relationship had morphed into something profound. "Both of us value and appreciate intimacy and our ability to go deep is evenly matched," Mr. Flower said. As Ms. Savage prepared to return to Oakland, both shared feelings that erased any doubts or misgivings.

Over the next year, the couple bounced from Mr. Flower's small beachy community to Ms. Savage's urban home, referring often to each other as the country mouse and the city mouse. With Ms. Savage parenting on alternate weekends, their time alone together was precious. In their country life, they kayaked, hiked and watched the fog roll in and out. In the city, they attended concerts, visited art galleries and sought out unusual restaurants. With each visit, the relationship strengthened.

"I didn't know if friends would judge me for being with a man," Ms. Savage said. "But every time a friend met Ande, they adored him and saw how happy he made me."

In April 2022, still under the shadow of Covid, the couple spent a month working out of Mr. Flower's mother's home in Mount Dora, Fla. After that togetherness, they were loath to part. So, in May 2022, they decided to make a home together, moving into an Airbnb in Sacramento and putting Ms. Savage's home on the market. After the sale, the couple purchased a house in Rancho Cordova, a suburb of Sacramento, where they both now work remotely.

In September, on a windswept beach, Mr. Flower proposed marriage to Ms. Savage, who joyously accepted. "This is a later-in-life relationship," Mr. Flower said. "We have been around the block enough times to know what we need and are thrilled to have found it with each other."

On April 29, a hot spring day, the couple wed at Shangri-La, a restaurant and event venue in Fair Oaks, Calif., not far from the couple's home. Kristin Masters, ordained by the American Marriage Ministries, performed the ceremony in front of 130 guests, many in yachting caps, tropical print dresses and hats big enough to make their own shade which gave a cruise-ship vibe to the event's theme of "Yacht Rock."

"It's love-centered, positive and has that '70s groove that reminded both of us of when we were growing up," Mr. Flower said.

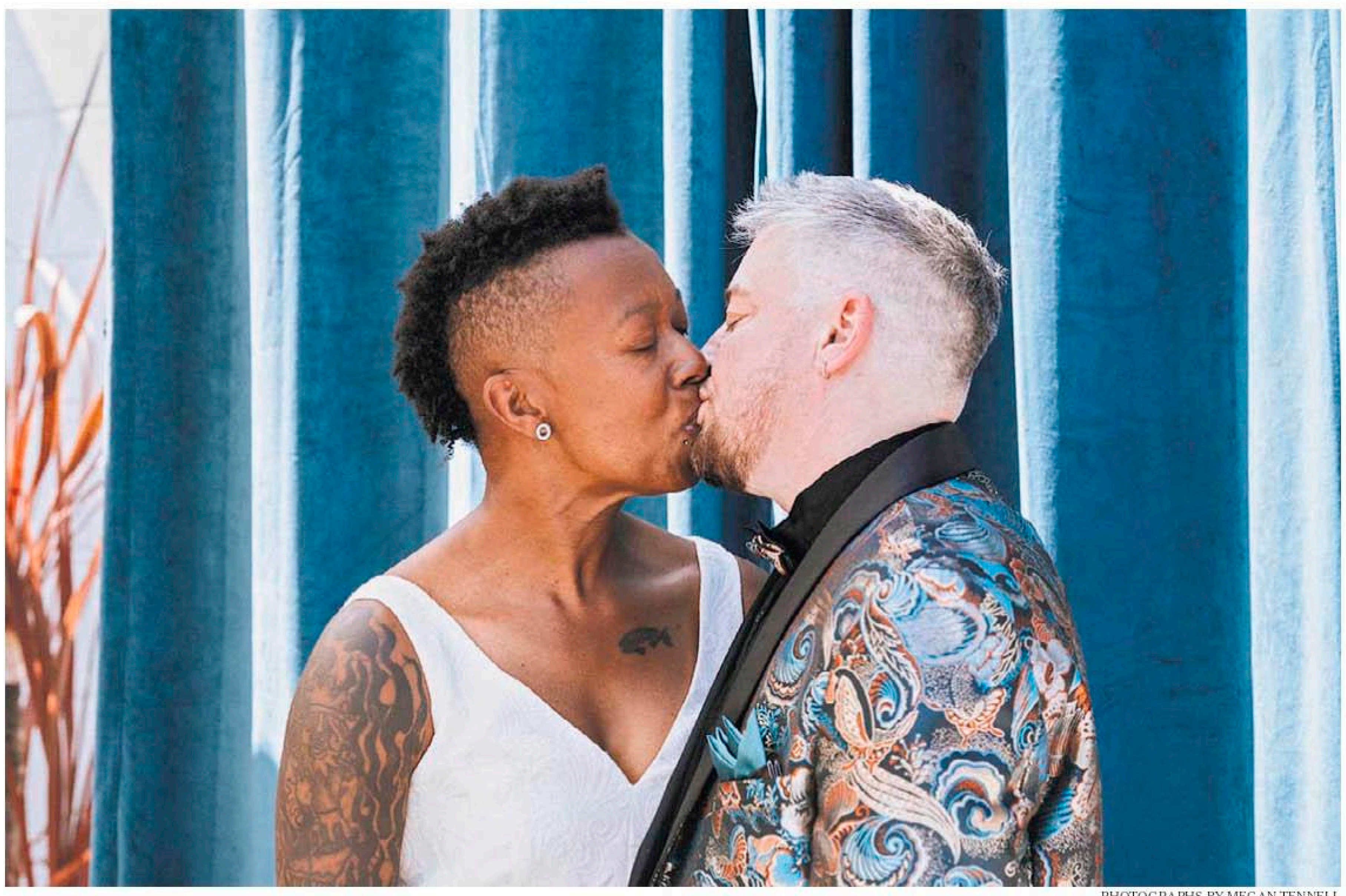
At the entrance, the costume-happy crowd was encouraged to don leis and pick up a brightly painted maraca or two. The Oakland musician Kofy Brown arrived dressed as Isaac Washington, the bartender on the TV show "The Love Boat," complete with a stick-on mustache, pink Hawaiian shirt and white slacks. Ms. Brown's wife, Margaret Belton, a singer in a Patsy Cline tribute band, arrived dressed as Julie McCoy, the cruise director on "The Love Boat."

In her vows, Ms. Savage shared decades of hard-won relationship advice: "There will be dozens of people who will take your breath away," she said. "But the one who reminds you to breathe is the one you should keep."

"I give you this ring as a reminder that we face this world together," Mr. Flower said while holding Ms. Savage's hands. "We're an unbreakable team."

"If halos were a thing, Ande would have one," Ms. Savage said. "I had lots of questions for Ande when we first met, but in the end, his answer was 'I'm just Ande,' and now he's my Ande."

Stephanie Klassen contributed reporting.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY MEGAN TENNELL



Veronica Savage and Ande Flower were married on April 29 at Shangri-La, a restaurant and event space in Fair Oaks, Calif. The theme of the celebration was decidedly "yacht rock."

ON THIS DAY

When April 29, 2023

Where Shangri-La, a restaurant and event venue in Fair Oaks, Calif.

We Are Family At least three of Ms. Savage's longtime former partners, including the co-parent of her daughter, attended to cheer her on. Leigh Crow, a guest, musician and female Elvis impersonator who once performed as Elvis Herselvis, noted, "If queer weddings didn't include exes, there'd be no one there."

The '80s Are (Also) Forever During the reception, Ms. Savage jumped onstage and played bass with the wedding band, Popular Demand. Both bride and groom took the other's last name for a middle name (she is now Veronica Flower Savage and he is Ande Savage Flower), with one guest noting the combination captured the spirit of the couple: beautiful, fierce, and a perfect moniker for a punk band. (Mr. Flower, however, plays the flute.)

Feel the Heat Large white umbrellas, palm trees and banana plants shaded tables on the sprawling patio, but by midafternoon, the temperature was in the high 80s and guests stripped off whatever they could to hit the dance floor. Before leaving, the couple embraced, dipped, and shared a kiss under a rainbow flag emblazoned with "Everyone is welcome here."

WEDDINGS

Allison Flynn, Jeffrey Hood

Swept Up in a Clear Case of 'Manifestation' Destiny

Allison Alyssa Flynn had a secret crush on Jeffrey Charles Hood from the moment she met him — a secret from Mr. Hood, that is.

The two met in January 2017 in Charleston, S.C., at Trunk Club, a personal styling service no longer in existence. Mr. Hood worked at the Dallas location as a custom clothing trainer, she in Charleston as a stylist, when he came to Charleston to lead training sessions. "The first time I saw Jeff, I was immediately drawn to him, and within 24 hours I was fully obsessed, like, 'I'm going to marry this man' obsessed," Ms. Flynn said.

But Mr. Hood had a girlfriend then.

Ms. Flynn told her family, friends and co-workers about her crush. "I call it manifestation," she said. "We stayed connected and I kept telling people, 'I'm going to marry him.'"

"Everyone knew about her crush except for me," said Mr. Hood, who had interacted frequently with Ms. Flynn during work.

In May 2018, Ms. Flynn moved to Los Angeles having been promoted to a sales manager role at Trunk Club.

However, everything changed in June 2019. Ms. Flynn was leaving Trunk Club and called Mr. Hood to let him know. She also confessed her feelings for him. He told her he was single.

"We spent months talking, FaceTiming and Snapchatting," Mr. Hood said. "We were falling in love. I was 30-something, but I felt like a teenager."

Ms. Flynn said that the two "spent four or five hours every day on FaceTime." She added, "We were talking in a very romantic way."

In July 2019, Ms. Flynn flew to New York to spend a long weekend with Mr. Hood, who was transferred to the city by Trunk Club the year before. When she arrived, he said, "I just walked up to her and kissed her."

The weekend did not go quite as planned. After dinner that Thursday evening at JG Melon, a restaurant on the Upper East Side, "I spent the night on the bathroom floor throwing up," said Ms. Flynn, citing a side effect of a new medication.

She was sick for nearly 48 hours, during which Mr. Hood checked on her and brought her remedies.

When Ms. Flynn was well again, by Saturday, they went exploring. "At one point, we were walking through Grand Central Station," Ms. Flynn said. "We just stopped and kissed and felt like we were in a movie, and there was no one else in the world even though a million people were buzzing around."

She visited him again in August, and soon after he visited her in Los Angeles. "It was the first time I said, 'I love you,'" Mr. Hood said. "I knew then we had something special."

Not long after, Mr. Hood decided to start his own clothing business and return to Texas, where he was raised. "She supported me and, more important, agreed to move to Dallas," Mr. Hood said. They moved in together in November 2019.

In 2021, the couple relocated yet again to Atlanta, so they could be closer to Ms. Flynn's parents.



COLETTE PHOTO

Ms. Flynn, 32, a native of Myrtle Beach, S.C., works remotely as the head of growth at Pearmill, a luxury performance marketing agency based in New York. She has a bachelor's degree in communication studies from College of Charleston.

Mr. Hood, 34, was born in Korea and raised in Richardson, Texas, after being adopted as an infant. He is the founder and owner of Jeff Hood Custom, a custom clothier, and the director for business development for Garmentier, a platform for stylists and retailers.. He has a bachelor's degree in business administration from Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

Mr. Hood is also a former child actor. He played Danny for three seasons, from 1997 to 1999, on "Barney & Friends" and appeared in several Barney movies.

On March 16, 2022, Ms. Flynn accompanied Mr. Hood on a work trip to New York. Mr. Hood said, "I had booked dinner at BondST and told her we were heading to a spot on the water for happy-hour oysters at sunset before dinner."

As they were walking to the edge of the pier, Mr. Hood proposed. "It all seems like a beautiful blur," he said. "I'm pretty sure I surprised her, too, which would be a first."

Ms. Flynn is Jewish, and Mr. Hood completed his conversion to Judaism on March 10. "It was something I decided on entirely on my own," he said.

On March 12, the couple had a Jewish wedding ceremony in Myrtle Beach at Temple Emanu-El, Ms. Flynn's home synagogue, led by Rabbi Avraham Perets.

They were legally married virtually at Ms. Flynn's family home in Myrtle Beach on April 24 by Shelby Sutherland Gray, who was ordained through American Marriage Ministries.

On April 28, the couple had another wedding celebration, led by Robert McCarthy, a retired New Jersey Superior Court judge and Ms. Flynn's maternal uncle. It was also held at Ms. Flynn's family home in Myrtle Beach, with 87 guests. Mr. Hood's company made the suits and tuxedos worn by several family members and guests. "The whole day I was overwhelmed with love, peace and happiness," Ms. Flynn said.

As the last song, "Crazy in Love" by Beyoncé and Jay-Z, came to an end, guests cheered, and the couple stood in the middle of the backyard dance floor. "I closed my eyes and held her so tight," Mr. Hood said. "I have never in my life, ever, felt the amount of love and energy that was enveloping us. The only way I can describe the feeling is heavenly." *JENNY BLOCK*

Vows

FIELD NOTES

Lavish Indian Weddings Are Back and Bigger Than Ever

Some couples are having blowout events after a time of caution during the pandemic.

By PRAACHI RANIWALA

Indian weddings can be elaborate occasions, often lasting several days. But a break from tradition because of the Covid-19 pandemic meant that intimate or at-home nuptials became the norm for many. Now, the grand Indian wedding is not just back, it's bigger than ever for the couples with the means to host extravagant affairs.

In the past year, high-profile brides, grooms and their elite families have chartered flights, rented gondolas to ferry guests across Venice, privatized an Italian piazza for a dinner by a Michelin-starred chef and even shut down the famous casino square in Monte Carlo for a ceremony.

According to the Confederation of All India Traders, the apex body for India's trading community, 3.2 million weddings were scheduled to take place last year from November to December alone, generating about 3.75 trillion rupees in business, or around $45 billion, for India's wedding industry — a steep rise from 2.5 trillion rupees, or about $31 billion, in 2019. CAIT reported that a majority of the weddings during the end of last year cost $3,657 to $121,902.

But there are also those who go on to spend a lot more. Devika Narain, a wedding designer who is a go-to for Indian celebrities, said such weddings could cost anywhere from $1 million to $5 million, or even more, for about 250 to 500 guests. "Décor, jewelry and guest entertainment tend to be the larger spends," Ms. Narain said.

The Economic Times reported that a two-day destination wedding in a five-star hotel at a top-tier Indian location for 200 guests can cost $365,706 to $609,510. That sum can rise even more depending on the family's requirements.

Khushnooma Kapadia, the senior director of marketing for South Asia at Marriott International, which has 137 properties in India, half of which cater to weddings, has seen a jump in demand for wedding bookings.

"There is no impact of inflation on the wedding segment with regards to size or scale," Ms. Kapadia said in an email. She added that Marriott expected weddings revenue to increase by 20 to 25 percent this year from 2019.

Some wedding industry experts refer to the growth as pandemic revenge. "Couples are excited to celebrate, and they are not apologetic about it," said Vandana Mohan, who works with high-profile Indian couples and is the founder of the Wedding Design Company and Backstage Productions, which are based in New Delhi.

Vikram Mehta, founder of Mpire Events, who has planned over 150 Indian weddings around the world, added that the average expense for these weddings is around $792 to $913 per guest per day for a wedding of 150 to 200 people. "This is expenditure on the venues and service providers on the days of the wedding events," Mr. Mehta said. "It does not include the bridal trousseau, flight tickets or the couple's clothing and jewelry."

In October, Alya Gupta, 22, a New Delhi-raised psychology graduate from the University of Toronto, and Harman Taneja, 26, a businessman based in Bengaluru, married at Sofitel Bahrain Zallaq Thalassa Sea & Spa, a luxury hotel in Bahrain. Three hundred and fifty guests flew in from around the world for their four-day destination wedding, which featured six events. "We both have big families, and it was important that everyone be a part of our celebrations," Ms. Gupta said.



SUMIT PRODUCTIONS

Harman Taneja and Alya Gupta in October in Bahrain. A two-day destination wedding for 200 guests at a top-tier Indian location can cost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Traveling with 350 guests is not out of the ordinary for an Indian wedding, said Siddharth Sharma, the founder of House on the Clouds, a wedding photography and filmmaking company based in Bengaluru. Some couples even travel with 500 to 600 guests, said Mr. Sharma, whose business has been a go-to for Indian celebrity couples. "Two hundred is considered an intimate guest list," he added.

Mr. Sharma said that he recently received an inquiry from an Indian political family for a reception party with 100,000 attendees.

Despite the size, there is a greater intimacy now in how these weddings are being planned.

Families are no longer the main driving force in wedding decision making. "Every detail is personalized according to the bride and groom — their favorite colors, songs, designers, food, artists," Ms. Mohan said. "It has to be relevant to them."

Ketan Sawant, a founder of A New Knot, a luxury wedding and event planning company based in Mumbai that has planned several celebrity and industrialist weddings, said: "The focus is not on showing the world how much you're spending, it's about detailing at a micro level. Families are leaving no stone unturned when it comes to hospitality and guest experiences."

This includes catering to guests' dietary considerations and offering amenities like steam irons in hotel rooms. "For weddings outside India, our teams have collected luggage at the departure airport and then delivered it straight to the hotel rooms at the final destination, so that guests can travel hassle-free," he said.

Many couples want their weddings to be one big party. "We organized a 1920s-themed party in the lobby while guests were checking in, so that everyone could get into the mood from the get-go," Ms. Mohan said of one recent wedding she helped plan.

Ms. Gupta said that she and her husband booked several artists and performers to keep attendees entertained through the four days. "It was a private concert-like vibe," she said, "and we took all age groups into consideration."

Ms. Mohan noted that Indian weddings had become cosmopolitan and global while still being culturally rooted. "Indian couples today are well traveled and research meticulously," she said. "They'll find the best of the destination — chefs, artists, wines, gifts — and bring it to their event. A couple we worked with visited several bars to discover local musicians to perform at their wedding. Another bride personally visited 15 destinations overseas before finalizing one."

Mr. Sawant added that couples were also seeking landmark hotels and unique venues beyond banquet halls to add further novelty. "For a destination wedding in Doha, one of the events was at the National Museum of Qatar, which is not an easy feat," he said. "We had to secure special permissions for it. We even work with government bodies and tourism boards to onboard certain venues."

Europe was a popular destination for Indian weddings in 2022. Mr. Sharma and his crew photographed weddings in Paris; Istanbul; Tuscany and the Amalfi Coast, both in Italy. This year's itinerary includes Rome; Lake Como in Italy; Cancún, Mexico; and Budapest.

Other popular options are the Middle East and the south of France. Rajasthan and Goa are still sought-after locations in India. "But couples will grab whatever is available this year because so many venues are already sold out," Ms. Mohan said.

WEDDINGS

Stephanie Korbely, Rohit Kalkur

Was the Proposal Too Corny? Doesn't Look Like It.

During one of New York's rainiest weekends, Ladies Pavilion, a cast-iron gazebo in Central Park off West 77th Street, kept Rohit Subramanya Kalkur and Stephanie Janina Korbely sheltered during their wedding ceremony on April 30.

They struggled a bit to slip rings onto each other's fingers because of the humidity from the storm. But the splattering of the rain actually served as a pleasant soundtrack for the ceremony. The city's skyscrapers, shrouded in mist, made for a romantic backdrop. The Central Park Lake, and a beautiful pink tree that popped out among the greenery, only added to the picture.

That's why the couple did not mind skipping over the puddles down the path to the pavilion. It was a distinctly New York City wedding ceremony for a New York City love story.

That morning, Mr. Kalkur made himself and Ms. Korbely cups of hot chai with freshly grated ginger, a pinch of turmeric and cardamom. Mr. Kalkur's morning chai — "the best," according to Ms. Korbely — has been a daily ritual for the couple since they started dating.

During the Covid-19 pandemic, they matched on the dating app Hinge in July 2020 and had their first date a few weeks later over a video call. The next week, they met in Prospect Park for a "socially distance walk and talk," Mr. Kalkur, 34, said. They had takeout drinks from the bar Washington Commons and watched the sun set and the fireflies fluttering in the night sky. "It felt very magical," Ms. Korbely, 36, said.

"With New York dating, you never really know how serious it is and where things are going to go," she said. But she had a good feeling about Mr. Kalkur, and so did he about her.

"We quickly became a pandemic pod," she said. They spent a lot of time in his apartment working remotely, cooking together and watching movies.

In May 2021, they moved in together to a one-bedroom apartment in Downtown Brooklyn in the same building he had been living in. Mr. Kalkur is from Colorado Springs, and Ms. Korbely is from Bavaria, Germany.

For the proposal, Mr. Kalkur put together a scrapbook filled with photos from their travel adventures, road trips and other fun times. He added her photo from Hinge that he had swiped right on, a collection of dishes they cooked together during the pandemic and love notes that she had left him whenever she went away on trips.

He also wrote messages throughout the book. One said: "Little did I know that on the day I swiped on your profile, my life would change forever." He presented the scrapbook to her on Christmas morning in 2022.

"Stephanie always used to joke around that she didn't want a corny holiday proposal," Mr. Kalkur said. "I'm like, 'Well, you're going to get one.'" On the last page, there was a plastic bag with a ring inside, "a suspicious bulge" that she had been ignoring the whole time, she said. He took the ring out and went down on one knee in his set of their matching Christmas pajamas. "I was crying the whole time already," Ms. Korbely said.



JOSE MELGAREJO

Mr. Kalkur works as a software engineer at the financial technology company Robinhood and graduated from the University of Colorado Boulder. Ms. Korbely is a program manager at Stripe, also a financial technology company, who graduated from the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich. Both work from New York offices.

Their wedding ceremony was part of an event called Elopements for Couples Who Care, hosted by Have Lover, Will Travel, a wedding officiating company, and the nonprofit Vow for Girls, which is focused on ending child marriages globally.

Couples chose from one of two donation tiers for their elopements. Mr. Kalkur and Ms. Korbely selected the Tier 2 package, which cost $611 and "pays for small business start-up costs and vocational training for one girl," a representative for Vow for Girls wrote in an email. The package included a ceremony, five photos and the filing of the license. Liz Normant, the founder of Have Lover, Will Travel, officiated in front of ten guests. She is ordained through the Universal Life Church.

Ms. Korbely found out about the elopement event on Instagram about a week before it happened. The couple wanted the legal marriage officiated ahead of a Hindu wedding ceremony with family in Munich on July 1.

"It's just really special if we can give this day a bigger meaning, a meaning that's bigger than us," Ms. Korbely said. *SADIBA HASAN*

Joe Fay, Dan Garness

On the Roof, One Question After Another

Joseph Bartlett Fay (left) and Daniel Wayne Garness, fittingly, met face to face inside an architectural landmark — now known as the Burns House, designed by Charles Moore, the postmodernist architect, on a hillside in Santa Monica Canyon in California.

"Dan is a residential and landscape designer," Mr. Fay said. "I'm an architectural enthusiast."

Six months earlier, in March 2012, the pair met via email through mutual friends, who thought, distance aside, they would be ideal for each other — Mr. Fay, 68, lived in Park Slope, Brooklyn, and Mr. Garness, 70, in Los Angeles.

In September, after a slow start — they emailed three months before speaking on the phone — Mr. Fay flew out to Los Angeles to attend a fund-raiser for the Children's Brain Tumor Foundation, of which he was then the executive director. He graduated magna cum laude with a degree in history from Boston College and received an M.B.A. from Columbia.

Mr. Garness invited him over while house-sitting for his friend, the late Leland Burns, a University of California, Los Angeles professor of urban planning, who owned the house at the time. The house is now part of the Charles Moore Foundation. "I thought Joe was adorable, really intelligent, really adventurous, accomplished and worldly," said Mr. Garness, the principal of Garness Studio, a residential and landscape design firm then in Los Angeles and New Orleans.

Mr. Garness graduated with a bachelor of architecture from Louisiana State University and Mr. Moore was his mentor while he pursued a master's in architecture for two years at U.C.L.A. He also later worked at his firm, Moore Ruble Yudell, in Santa Monica.

Mr. Fay and Mr. Garness sipped drinks on the patio before going out to a Mexican restaurant. Later, as they gazed at the full moon from a balcony overlooking the pool at the house, they had their first kiss. In November, they spent a weekend in Phoenix, where Mr. Garness, on his way back to Los Angeles from a project in New Orleans, accompanied Mr. Fay to a fund-raiser at the Arizona Science Center. "I knew I was in love with him," Mr. Garness said, and they soon realized they wanted to be together.

In July, Mr. Fay made the jump to Los Angeles after landing a job as the executive director at ThinkCure!, a children's charity then supporting cancer research, from which he retired in 2017.

"How often do you have this happen?" said Mr. Fay, who drove five days cross-county in his Volvo with Bear, his 12-year-old black cat at the time. "You find the right guy and head off into the rest of your life?"



JEFF POUNDS

On weekends they visited houses Mr. Garness had renovated or built, from Oxnard to Hollywood; they went to museums and they ate at old-school restaurants like Musso & Frank Grill.

Mr. Fay stayed in a corporate apartment for a month, then for a year rented a little bungalow in West Hollywood. In 2013 they bought a 1926 English Cottage-style house in the Silver Lake area overlooking downtown Los Angeles.

In Spring 2018, Mr. Garness proposed on their roof with a ring made out of hammered silver quarters from a local boutique. Then, with an identical ring, Mr. Fay, who braved the heights, proposed to him.

In September 2018, they moved to the Irish Channel neighborhood of New Orleans, about 45-minutes away from Mr. Garness's 94-year-old father.

They live in an 1885 Italianate house three blocks from the Mississippi River, with their tabby cat Kerouac, and Ralph, a Clumber spaniel rescue they adopted in February. They try to make it to every Mardi Gras parade in their neighborhood, and also enjoy local jazz, regional theater productions and the Marigny Opera House.

"A good house is a snapshot of the world," Mr. Garness said. "Equal parts shelter and dreams. Marriage is maybe a little like that too."

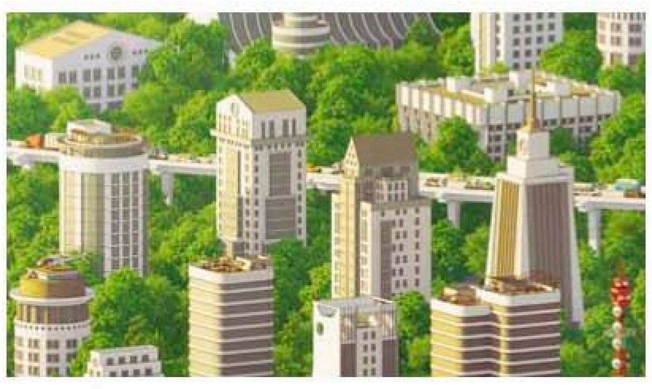
On May 1, Richard Perque, judge pro tempore of the Civil District Court of the Parish of Orleans, officiated at the Civil District Court in New Orleans, with Mr. Garness's father and his girlfriend as their witnesses. They celebrated, with about a dozen guests, in a friend's courtyard in the French Quarter with Champagne and a lemon cake with butter cream from Bywater Bakery nearby. *ROSALIE R. RADOMSKY*

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CHANEL

There is no secret trick to making hard decisions, but there are strategies that can help.
BY ROBERT E. RUBIN | PAGE 5



Every city has acres of in-between space that could become oases of greenery for insects, birds and other animal life.
BY BEN WILSON | PAGE 9

When we understand that nuclear talk is itself the weapon, we can act to make the situation less risky.
BY TIMOTHY SNYDER | PAGE 9

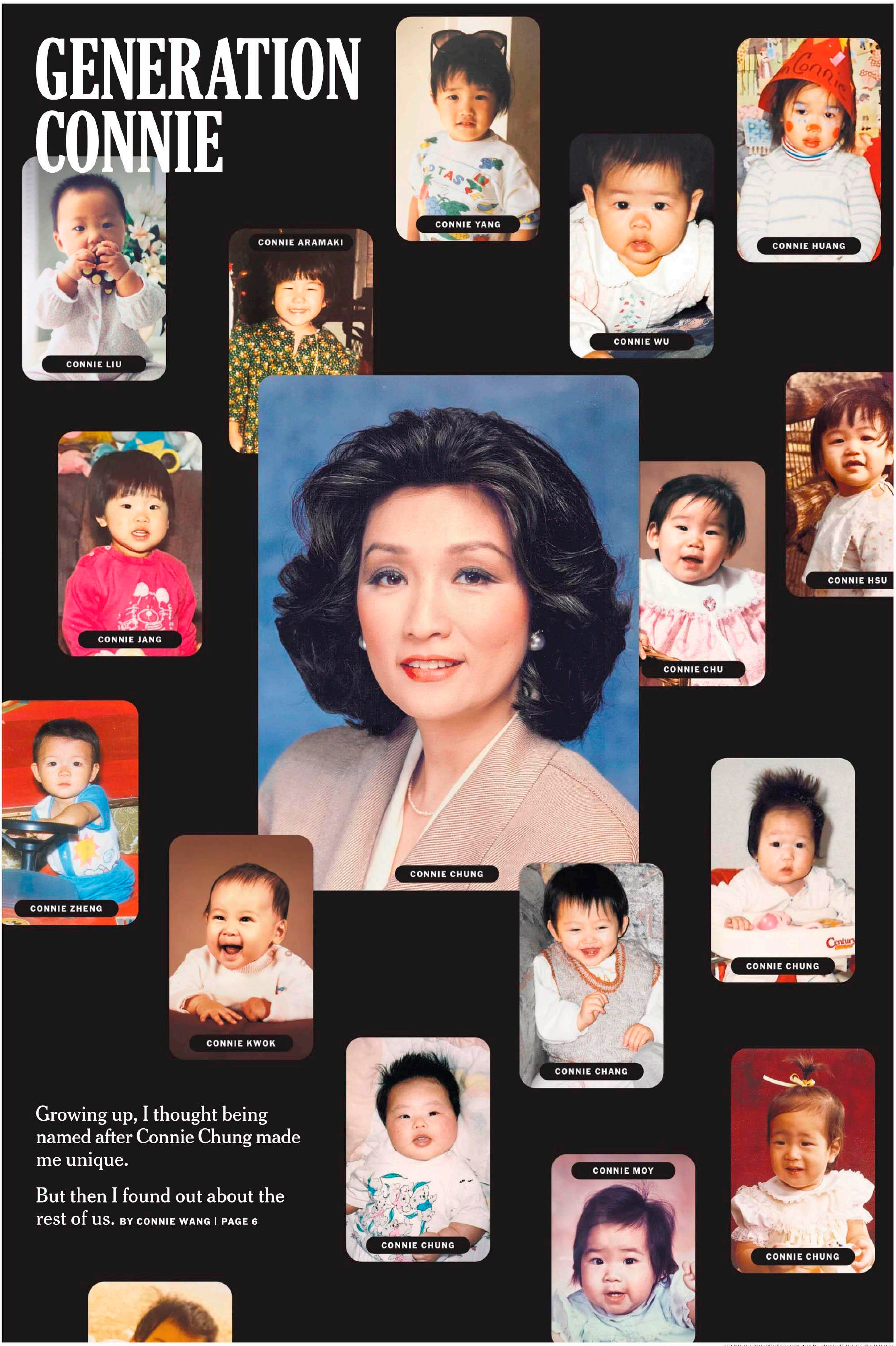
IDEAS | CONVERSATION | ANALYSIS

Sunday Opinion

The New York Times

SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023

GENERATION CONNIE



Growing up, I thought being named after Connie Chung made me unique.

But then I found out about the rest of us. BY CONNIE WANG | PAGE 6

CONNIE CHUNG (CENTER): CBS PHOTO ARCHIVE, VIA GETTY IMAGES

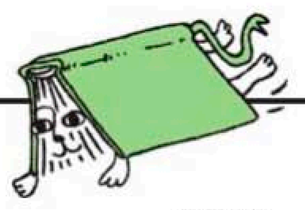
Columns & Commentary

Witness: Portraits of the people living the news.

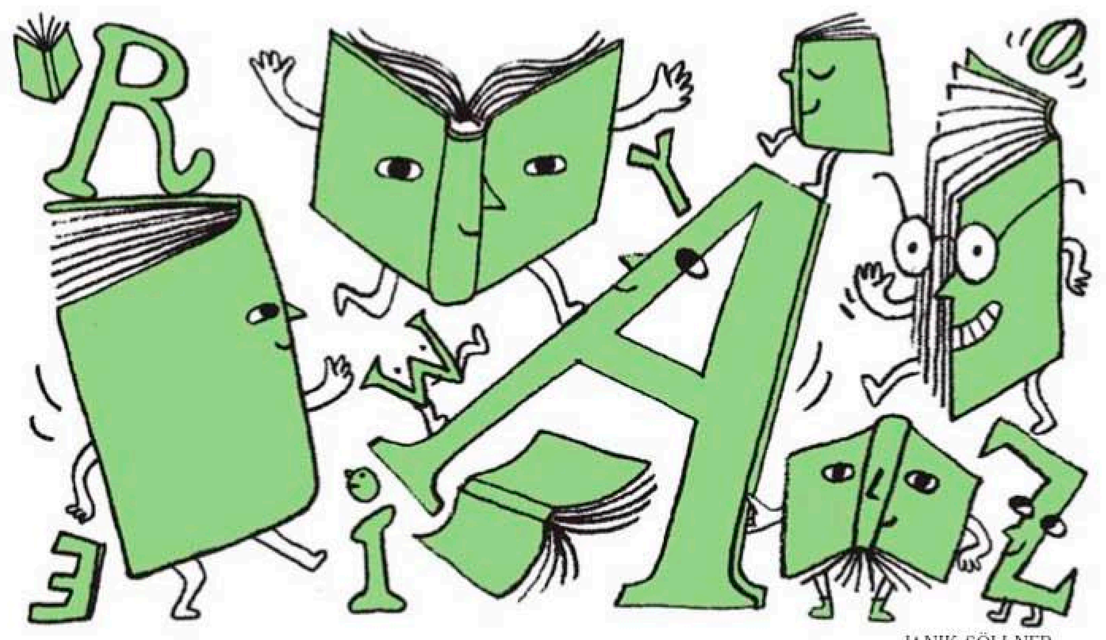


PHOTOGRAPH BY EMILY MONFORTE

I'm a television and film writer with the Writers Guild of America. I've worked in comedy, animation, live action, late night. Part of what led to this strike is that studios are acting like tech companies — trying to optimize by replacing humans with computers. My hope is that the strike ends with writers being valued for their creative work and not seen as expendable. We should be treated as people. Because we are. — **Demi Adejuyigbe, Los Angeles**



Footnotes: Time to Learn the ABCs



JANIK SÖLLNER

This month, New York City announced it would make major changes to reading instruction in its public schools, in an attempt to tackle a persistent problem: About half of students in grades three through eight are not proficient in reading. Curriculums will emphasize phonics — which teaches children how to decode letter sounds — rather than techniques that encourage kids to use context and picture clues to guess words. This is part of a massive effort to combat poor reading skills, which are a nationwide problem. Here are a few things to read and listen to about how Americans read.

READ

'Proust and the Squid'

How do people learn to read and write — and how has the development of these skills transformed the world? The author Maryanne Wolf answers these questions in her 2008 book, chronicling written language throughout human evolution.

LISTEN

'Sold a Story'

This 2022 podcast hosted by Emily Hanford investigates several authors who promoted a faulty method for teaching reading and a publishing company that has made millions selling educational materials rooted in their flawed science.

READ

'Language at the Speed of Sight'

This 2017 book from the psychologist Mark Seidenberg draws on cutting-edge research in machine learning, linguistics and early childhood development to explain how we read, why so many can't and what can be done about it.

READ

'Reading in the Brain'

In this 2009 book, the neuroscientist Stanislas Dehaene offers a look at what our brains are really doing when we are reading, and reveals that — while we may take it for granted — reading is, in truth, an astounding and complicated feat.



NICHOLAS KRISTOF

One Almond, 3.2 Gallons Of Water

RIO VERDE FOOTHILLS, ARIZ.

When interviewing people in their homes here, I didn't have the heart to ask them if I could use the bathroom. There's no water to spare, so some families flush only once a day.

As for showers, they're rationed and timed: "You get in, you soap up, you turn the water off, and then when you're done, you turn the water on and wash it off, and then you're out," said Cody Reim, who works in construction.

All this is because water has become scarce here this year, after the city of Scottsdale cut off this area from water it had supplied; it said it needed to conserve water for its own residents. The resulting crisis in these foothills outside Phoenix offers a glimpse of what more Americans may face unless we reconfigure how we manage water.

This is a crisis across the West, for the West was built on cheap water that is now running out from underpricing and overuse just as climate change is amplifying droughts.

Arizona lures retirees with lush golf courses sometimes requiring as much as 200 million gallons of water per 18-hole course over a year. But the big user of water isn't households, sprawling lawns, fountains, industry or golf courses. It's farming.

One study found that 88 percent of water in 17 Western states was used by agriculture. Only 7 percent was consumed by homes. Alfalfa fields single-handedly drank up almost three times as much as all households.

California produces a bounty of almonds, which gulp about 3.2 gallons of water for each almond, according to a 2019 study.

Researchers say that the Southwest is experiencing a megadrought that is the worst

We must allocate resources more sensibly in the West.

in at least 1,200 years. Wells have been drying up as far north as Oregon, and the Great Salt Lake in Utah has shrunk by two-thirds.

A wet winter and spring this year have brought a reprieve, but the West is squandering this opportunity to develop a new water regime — because few politicians want to impose painful but necessary cuts on agriculture and other uses.

I came to the Rio Verde Foothills to learn what it's like to get by when water can no longer be taken for granted. Many homes here got water from underground 5,000-gallon tanks that were filled by trucks from Scottsdale about once a month, for about 4 cents a gallon. (In much of the country, water bills come out to less than a penny a gallon.)

Since Scottsdale cut off the area, water trucks have been hauling water from much farther away, and homeowners are paying 11 cents a gallon; Reim is seeing his water bill soar to a level he hadn't imagined possible.

"Five times my electric bill," he said. "Almost equal to my mortgage."

Meanwhile, the Colorado River — lifeblood of the West, supplier of more than one-third of Arizona's water, along with substantial quantities for California, Nevada and other states — is running low.

The Biden administration has proposed saving what's left of the river by evenly cutting allotments to California, Arizona and Nevada by as much as one-quarter.

A central problem is that water isn't allocated by market price but inefficiently through a muddle of irrigation rights that were mostly awarded on a first-come-first-serve basis. This water is so cheap that there is little attempt to conserve or develop technical innovations to use less water.

Many of the shortages would disappear if water were rationed the way goods normally are in a market economy, by price: Farmers would not irrigate almond orchards if they had to buy 3.2 gallons of water at market rates to produce each almond.

Mostly we're a market economy, but water allocation resembles a 1970s Soviet system, with the same lack of price signals and consequently the same inefficiency. Any rationalization of the system and raising of irrigation costs would be wrenching — consider a farm family that has gone into debt to plant a large almond orchard — but there is no other sensible path forward.

Outside Scottsdale, Karen Nabity and her husband live in the dream house they built for themselves on an achingly beautiful five-acre plot of desert. But filling her water tank is now three times as expensive as it was six months ago, and she worries that prices could soar much higher yet.

Now there's a red bucket in the family sink: Any time they wash their hands, they save the water in the bucket and use it to flush the toilet. To clean her hair, she uses dry shampoo, a powder.

She gave up on the idea of a well after a neighbor drilled 1,300 feet and didn't find water. One of her biggest concerns is a wildfire. It's not clear to her where the water would come from to fight a fire, and the desert will soon be dry as tinder.

Water is like the air: We take it for granted, until it's not there. And if we don't make hard decisions across the West to allocate water more rationally, nature won't hesitate to make them for us.

Columns & Commentary

ROSS DOUTHAT

Trump’s Lesson for the News Media



DAMON WINTER/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Just before the South Carolina Republican primary in 2012, CNN’s John King opened a presidential debate by asking Newt Gingrich what he probably considered a tough question, about Gingrich’s ex-wife’s claim that the former speaker of the House had once sought an open marriage.

Gingrich’s response dripped with dudgeon. “I think the destructive, vicious, negative nature of much of the news media,” he told King, “makes it harder to govern this country, harder to attract decent people to run for public office, and I am appalled that you would begin a presidential debate on a topic like that.” To make the “personal pain” of divorce into “a significant question for a presidential campaign is as close to despicable as anything I can imagine.”

The crowd erupted. Gingrich swept to victory in the primary, lapping noted family man Mitt Romney. And though the Gingrich campaign faltered soon thereafter, it was a moment that anticipated an important part of the Donald Trump phenomenon, by offering proof that Republican voters will forgive a multitude of sins, or else disbelieve in those sins’ existence, for a candidate who’s eagerly, even zestfully at war with the establishment media.

That dynamic explains the futility of CNN’s town hall with Trump last week, which was basically set up as an extended version of the King-Gingrich confrontation. The topics raised by Kaitlan Collins included many issues that would be embarrassing to Trump, were he capable of embarrassment — personal scandals, election lies and so forth. But with an amped-up crowd eager to side with him against the press, it was child’s play for Trump to steamroll her attempts at shaming and her frantic real-time fact checks.

Two groups can learn something from the experience: first, network producers and executives thinking about how to conduct interviews and host debates with Trump; second, rival Republican presidential candidates trying to envision a path to beating him.

What the TV professionals should learn is that they have two choices in dealing with another Trump primary campaign. They can take the kind of this-is-an-emergency path urged on them by some press critics and anti-Trump writers: Don’t platform him or normalize his campaign in any way, don’t let him speak on live TV, cover him only within a set framework that constantly emphasizes his authoritarian tendencies and attempts to overturn the last election. I don’t believe this path is wise or workable, but it at least has a moral consistency lacking in the “democracy is in danger and tune in tonight for an hour with the demagogue!” approach that we already watched play out in 2016.

> **DeSantis can also learn from the town hall debacle.**

Alternatively, if the press intends to conduct interviews and run debates as normal, then in preparing for them they need to try to think a little bit more like Republican voters as opposed to center-left journalists. Not in the sense of behaving slavishly toward the former president, but in the sense of writing the kinds of questions that a right-leaning American primed to dislike the media might actually find illuminating.

In part, as Ramesh Ponnuru suggests, that means drilling into Trump’s presidential record on conservative terms rather than liberal ones — asking about, for instance, the failure to complete the border wall or the surge in crime in the last year of his administration. In part, as Erick Erickson writes, it means asking obvious questions that follow from his stolen-election narrative rather than just attacking it head-on — as in, if the Democrats really stole the election, why did your administration, your chosen attorney general and your appointed judges basically just let them do it?

The utility of this last line of questioning is also something that Trump’s prospective rivals, Ron DeSantis especially, can draw out of the CNN experience, since they can tee up those kinds of conservative-friendly challenges if the media does not. But the most basic lesson to be drawn by Republican politicians from watching Trump’s town hall is the importance, for any would-be Trumpian successor, of demonstrating that you too can engage with the mainstream press and come away a winner.

This is the core of Vivek Ramaswamy’s presidential strategy so far, which has lifted him to nearly Mike Pence-ian levels of support in primary polls in part because of his willingness to argue with Chuck Todd or Don Lemon, not just rattle off talking points on Hannity.

But it’s the opposite of the DeSantis method, which has been to stiff-arm the mainstream media (with a side of mockery from his friends and allies on Twitter). That’s fine for the governor of a rightward-trending state trying to get things done locally and build support with conservative activists. But it’s not what Republican voters actually seem to want from their national champions. They want the show, the battle, the drama. And you can’t really own the libs, in the end, if you won’t even take their questions.

MAUREEN DOWD

No Playing Ostrich With Trump

WASHINGTON

My brothers Michael and Martin attended baseball’s opening day at the old Griffith Stadium in April 1951, with the Senators (as our team was then called) playing the Yankees. President Harry Truman had been invited to throw out the first pitch, and the stadium erupted in boos; Truman had just fired the extremely popular Gen. Douglas MacArthur as commander of the Far East, and the crowd was irate.

When the boys got home, Martin confessed to our father that he had stood up to boo the president before Michael pulled him down.

“Dad told me that President Truman was a great man,” Martin later recalled. “He said that if Truman fired MacArthur, he must have his reasons and that I should never boo another president. I never did.”

It seems so quaint now, the idea of respecting the president. Gallant has vanished; gladiatorial is in. Patriotism is no longer a premier American virtue. And to a large degree, we have Donald Trump and Rupert Murdoch to thank for that.

Trump always ridiculed people, but when he brought that into the presidential arena, it was like injecting a virus of cruelty into the political bloodstream.

When I flip on Fox News at night, I cringe at the way they make fun of President Biden, the sick delight they take in sniping at any perceived infirmity.

Mitt Romney brought some rare Republican rectitude to the Capitol when he was asked about Trump being held liable for sexual abuse and defamation in the E. Jean Carroll trial. “He just is not suited to be president of the United States and to be the person who we hold up to our children and the world as the leader of the free world,” Romney told CNN’s Manu Raju. (The Utah senator also earlier chided Representative George Santos, saying, “You don’t belong here.”)

Todd Young, the mild-mannered conservative senator from Indiana, made it clear Thursday, after Trump’s brazen performance at the CNN town hall, that he’d had enough.

He told reporters that he would not be supporting the former president as the Republican nominee. Asked why, he replied, “Where do I begin?” — a bracing echo of Joseph Welch’s “Have you no sense of decency?” line to that earlier bully boy Joe McCarthy.

As a video circulates of Trump celebrating his CNN performance by dancing to “Macho Man” by the pool at Mar-a-Lago, we see Trump unplugged. The existential threat is aiming to get back in the Oval, this time without anyone trying to keep him from going completely off the rails, and with the scary new world of supervolved A.I. chatbots to help him lie and smear. (Trump posted a doctored video on Friday of Anderson Cooper saying “That was President Donald J. Trump ripping us” a new one “here on CNN.”)

> **As Sun Tzu says, ‘Know the enemy.’**

Trump is spiraling into even more of a self-deluded narcissist, if that’s possible. And he’s even more obsessed with numbers — if that’s possible. When he was asked by the terrific Kaitlan Collins if he regretted his actions on Jan. 6, he began rhapsodizing about, and exaggerating, the size of the crowd that day.

“I have never spoken to a crowd as large as this,” he said, adding: “They were there with love in their heart. That was an unbelievable — and it was a beautiful day.”

He called one of the most heinous days in American history “a beautiful day.” He called the Black Capitol Police officer who shot Ashli Babbitt, who was trying to break into the House chamber, a “thug.”

New Hampshire voters in the audience were cheering on Trump, and many even laughed when he crudely re-defamed E. Jean Carroll.

The town hall was enlightening — and frightening. But we needed that reminder to be on full alert, because Trump is not just an unhinged and dangerous extremist; he is also a cunning and dominating insurgent.

The argument that the media should ignore Trump and keep him under a bushel basket is ridiculous. You can’t extinguish Trump by not talking to him. He’s always going to find a platform.

Sun Tzu stressed that victory depends on knowing the enemy — “Force him to reveal himself.” Roberta Kaplan, Carroll’s lawyer, did a skillful job of letting Trump convict himself in the deposition.

President Biden needs to see what he’s up against. There are only so many times Biden can say “C’mon, man!” in a debate. The more he sees Trump in action, the less likely he is to be steamrolled. Biden’s team has been blithely underestimating the opponent. The cascading indictments allow Trump to play the gilt-dipped martyr on an even larger scale.

The task is to challenge Trump and expose him, not to put our fingers in our ears and sing “la, la, la.”

“It strikes me as fundamentally wrong to deny voters a chance to see candidates, and particularly front-running candidates, answering challenging questions from journalists and citizens in open forums,” David Axelrod told me Friday. “You can’t save democracy from people who would shred its norms by shredding democratic norms yourselves.”

JAMELLE BOUIE

A Gun-Filled America

Another week, another shooting.

This one was in Allen, Texas, where a gunman killed eight people before he was killed by a police officer. He used, as is standard these days, an AR-15-style rifle. Three of the victims were children.

The frequency of mass shootings in the United States means there is a ritual, of sorts, associated with each occurrence. Republican politicians offer “thoughts and prayers,” Democratic politicians condemn those offering only “thoughts and prayers,” and their respective allies in the media trade barbs over gun control.

On Twitter, Megyn Kelly, a former Fox News anchor, took part in the ritual with a series of tweets castigating gun control proponents for focusing on, well, gun control. “Serious q for gun control advocates: you’ve failed to effect change,” she said. “Pls face it. You can’t do it, thx to the 2A. We’re all well aware you don’t like that fact, but fact it is. What’s next? Must we just stay here sad, concerned, lamenting? Could we possibly talk OTHER SOLUTIONS?”

Apparently, the debate over gun control is over — “it’s done,” Kelly says — and so the only thing left to do is shape our society in a way that leaves life compatible with the mass proliferation of firearms.

You might say that I’m picking on Kelly, whose most noteworthy contribution to American political discourse was her forceful argument that Santa Claus, the fictional avatar of Christmas, is white. But even if Kelly isn’t especially relevant, she is emblematic of conservative rhetoric.

Gov. Greg Abbott of Texas jumped immediately to mental health and mental illness in the wake of the slaughter in Allen. “One thing we can observe very easily is that there has been a dramatic increase in the amount of anger and violence that’s taking place in America,” Abbott, a Republican, said in an interview with Fox News on Sunday. “And what Texas is doing, in a big-time way, we’re working to address that anger and violence by going to its root cause, which is addressing the mental health crisis behind it.”

> **It is not a world of trust or hope or solidarity.**

After another recent shooting — the attack at a private Christian school in Nashville that killed three adults and three children — Gov. Bill Lee, a Republican, announced a plan to help place armed officers at every school in Tennessee. “We have an obligation, I have an obligation, to do what I can and work together with leaders across this community to address people’s concerns and to protect our kids in whatever way we can,” he said.

Experts on mental health and mental illness have said, repeatedly, that it is inaccurate to assert or imply that these issues are primarily responsible for the rise of mass shootings in the United States. And in a 2018 report on mass shooters from 2000 to 2013, the F.B.I. pushed back on the idea that mental illness causes mass shootings: “Absent specific evidence, careful consideration should be given to social and contextual factors that might interact with any mental health issue before concluding that an active shooting was ‘caused’ by mental illness.”

There’s been less said about the similarly prevalent idea that we could prevent mass shootings by, as Kelly put it in another tweet, hardening the “soft targets” of American life. Not only is this as wrongheaded as the rhetoric concerning mental health and mass shootings, but it also works to normalize a disturbing vision for American society.

What is a “soft target”? It is a school or a mall or a church or a gym. It is a library, a movie theater, a grocery store or anywhere people gather to live their lives. What would it mean to “harden” those targets, most of which have already been targeted at one point or another? It would mean additional police officers and armed security; metal detectors and reinforced doors designed to bar entry; heightened scrutiny for visitors; and even mandatory checks for identification.

To harden our soft targets is, in other words, to turn the entire country into an airport security line. And far from a free society, this hardened America would be a continental version of Baghdad’s Green Zone, each checkpoint or guard a visible reminder that we’ve organized our entire lives around the prospect of instant death by lethal violence. We’re already halfway there. It is normal, at many synagogues and Jewish community centers, to have armed security guards. It is normal, at many schools, to have metal detectors. It is normal to drill young children for when a shooter appears — to train first and second and third graders to run and hide or play dead.

And of course, there are those who already live in a garrison state of sorts. For some Americans, it is a garrison of their own making: gated communities manned by armed guards. For others, it is more akin to a surveillance state, one of constant police presence and contact.

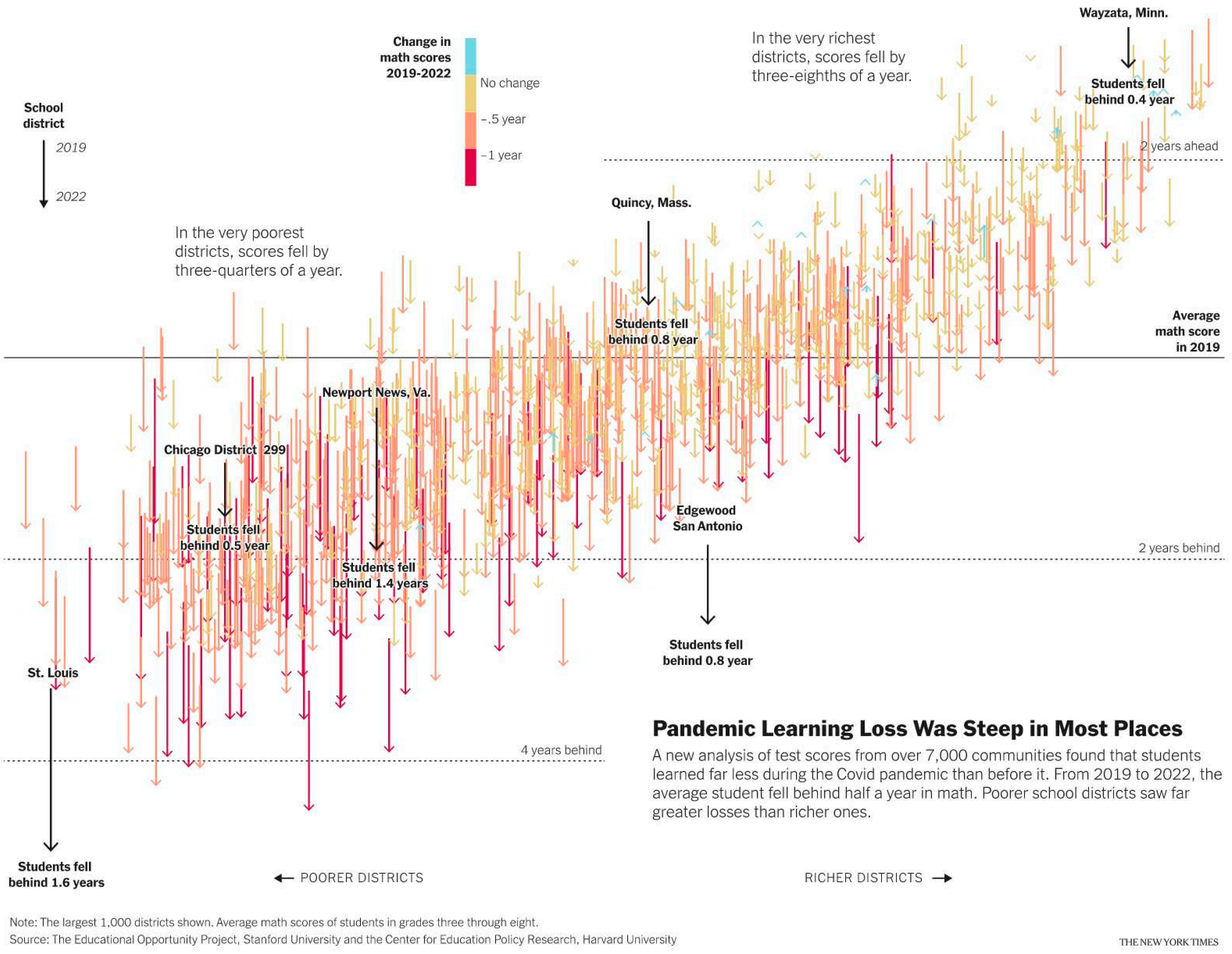
Either way, it is a world of fear and alienation, where people live in a state of heightened awareness, even anxiety. It is not a world of trust or hope or solidarity or any of the values we need to make democracy work as a way of life, much less a system of government.

Which might be the point for conservatives who want that world. Because what will survive are hierarchy and force and the power to make others bend to your will. And if they refuse? If they insist on their right to live free of fear?

Well, that’s what the guns are for.

OPINION

Parents Don't Understand How Far Behind Their Kids Are



Pandemic Learning Loss Was Steep in Most Places

A new analysis of test scores from over 7,000 communities found that students learned far less during the Covid pandemic than before it. From 2019 to 2022, the average student fell behind half a year in math. Poorer school districts saw far greater losses than richer ones.

Note: The largest 1,000 districts shown. Average math scores of students in grades three through eight.
Source: The Educational Opportunity Project, Stanford University and the Center for Education Policy Research, Harvard University

By Tom Kane and Sean Reardon

Dr. Kane is a professor of education and economics at Harvard. Dr. Reardon is a professor of education and sociology at Stanford.

PARENTS have become a lot more optimistic about how well their children are doing in school.

In 2020 and 2021, a majority of parents in the United States reported that the pandemic was hurting their children's education. But by the fall of 2022, a Pew survey showed that only a quarter of parents thought their children were still behind; another study revealed that more than 90 percent thought their child had already or would soon catch up. To hear parents tell it, the pandemic's effects on education were transitory.

Are they right to be so sanguine? The latest evidence suggests otherwise. Math, reading and history scores from the past three years show that students learned far less during the pandemic than was typical in previous years. By the spring of 2022, according to our calculations, the average student was half a year behind in math and a third of a year behind in reading.

As part of a team of researchers from Harvard, Stanford, Dartmouth, Johns Hopkins and the testing company NWEA — the Education Recovery Scorecard project — we have been sifting through data from 7,800 communities in 41 states, to understand where test scores declined the most, what caused these patterns and whether they are likely to endure. The school districts in these communities enroll 26 million elementary and middle school students in more than 53,000 public schools, roughly 80 percent of the public K-8 students in the country.

We've looked at test scores, the duration of school closures, broadband availability, Covid death rates, employment data, patterns of social activity, voting patterns, measures of how connected people are to others in their communities and Facebook survey data on both family activities and mental health during the pandemic.

And to get a sense of how probable it is that students will make up the ground they lost over the next few years, we looked at earlier test scores to see how students recovered from various disruptions in the decade before the pandemic.

Our detailed geographic data reveals what national tests do not: The pandemic exacerbated economic and racial educational inequality.

In 2019, the typical student in the poorest 10 percent of districts scored one and a half years behind the national average for his or her year — and almost four years behind students in the richest 10 percent of districts — in both math and reading.

By 2022, the typical student in the poorest districts had lost three-quarters of a year in math, more than double the decline of students in the richest districts. The declines in reading scores were half as large as in math and were similarly much larger in poor districts than rich districts. The pandemic left students in low-income and predominantly minority communities even further behind their peers in richer, whiter districts than they had been.

But while the effects of the pandemic on learning were quite different *across* communities, they were, surprisingly, evenly distributed among different types of students *within* each community. You might expect that the more affluent children in a district would be better protected from the educational consequences of the pandemic than their lower-income classmates. But that's not what we found.

Instead, within any school district, test scores declined by similar amounts in all groups of students — rich and poor, white, Black and Hispanic. (We didn't have enough data on Asian and Native American students to measure their learning.) And the extent to which schools were closed appears to have affected all students in a community equally, regardless of income or race.

Overall, it mattered a lot more which school district you lived in than how much money your parents earned.

Once we know that there was much more variation between districts than within them, the obvious question is: Which community factors determined how children were affected? One primary suspect is school closures. And our study — like other studies, one of which members of the team worked on — shows that test scores declined more in districts where school were closed longer. In districts closed for 90 percent or more of the 2020-21 school year, math scores declined by two-thirds of a year, nearly double the decline in districts that were closed for less than 10 percent of the school year.

But school closures are only part of the story. Students fell behind even in places where schools closed very briefly, at the start of the pandemic in spring 2020, and then reopened and stayed open for the next few years. Clearly, there were other factors at work.

What were they? We found that test scores declined more in places where the Covid death rate was high, in communities where adults reported feeling more depression and anxiety during the pandemic and where daily routines of children and families were most significantly restricted. In combination, these factors put enormous strain on parents, teachers and kids — making it unlikely that adults could help kids focus on school. Curtailed social activities were particularly harmful: On average, both math and reading scores declined by roughly a tenth of a year more in the 10 percent of districts where social activities were most curtailed than they did in the 10 percent least restricted.

We also found that the test score declines were smaller in communities with high voting rates and high census response rates — indicators of what sociologists call "institutional trust." School closures were also less harmful in such places.

What all this means is that the educational impacts of the pandemic were not driven solely by what was happening (or not happening) in schools. The disruption in children's lives outside of school also mattered: the constriction of their social lives, the stress their parents were feeling, the death of family members, the signals that the world was not safe and the very real fear that you or someone you love might get very sick and die. The pandemic was a public health and economic disaster that reshaped every area of children's lives, but it did so to different degrees in different communities, and so its consequences for children depended on where they lived.

Regardless of how exactly the pandemic caused educational harm, the overall effect has been devastating.

So what do we do now?

Schools cannot just "hurry up." Especially in math, teachers build students' understanding sequentially — from arithmetic to fractions to exponents to algebra. Schools have curriculums, and teachers have their lesson plans for each topic. In theory, a school district could rethink its curriculum following a disruption — skimming and paring to move more quickly — but that would be difficult to coordinate across hundreds or thousands of teachers. And do we really want students to have an abbreviated understanding of fractions?

When students fall behind, they don't just catch up naturally. Reviewing data from the decade preceding the pandemic, we identified numerous instances where a school district's test scores suddenly declined or suddenly rose in a particular grade. Our data does not reveal the causes. But we can see what happened afterward: Students resumed learning at their prior pace, but they did not make up the ground they lost or lose the ground they gained. Years later, the affected cohorts remained behind or ahead.

Over the past two years, many school districts have used the $190 billion in federal pandemic relief money to add tutors and other school staff and to raise summer school enrollment — all in an attempt to accelerate learning. To a limited extent, they succeeded. In one widely used math and reading assessment, the average student in Grades 3 through 8 resumed learning at a slightly faster than normal rate — making up about 25 percent of their pandemic loss in math and reading during the 2021-22 school year and the summer of 2022.

But even if schools are able to maintain that pace after the federal dollars to pay for tutors and summer school run out, it will take four years or more to return to prepandemic achievement levels.

The truth is children are already paying the price. In the coming weeks, 3.5 million high school seniors are set to graduate — less prepared, on average, for college and a career. They will be joining the more than 10 million students who have already graduated since the pandemic began.

In the hardest-hit communities — where students fell behind by more than one and a half years in math — like Richmond, Va.; St. Louis; and New Haven, Conn. — schools would have had to teach 150 percent of a typical year's worth of material for three years in a row just to catch up. It is magical thinking to expect they will make this happen without a major increase in instructional time.

For those districts that lost more than a year's worth of learning, state leaders should require districts to resubmit their plans for spending the federal money and work with them and community leaders to add instructional time.

Parents are relieved to see their children learning again. But most parents remain ill informed about how far behind their children are. To help change that, we've made our data public and will continue doing so as new data become available.

Public officials could — and should — help get the word out as well. This summer, mayors and governors should be starting public service campaigns to promote summer learning. And school boards should begin negotiating to extend the next school year (and should use the federal dollars to pay teachers for the extra time).

Especially given the mental toll of the pandemic, students need more than math and reading this summer. Rather than school districts trying to do it all themselves, they should link with other organizations — museums, summer camps, athletic programs — that already offer engaging summer programming, and add an academic component to those programs. For instance, Boston After School and Beyond provides an average of $1,500 per student in financial incentives and teaching support to add three hours of academic programming per day from a certified teacher at summer camps enrolling Boston students. The incentives are largely paid for by Boston Public Schools. The program is a potential model for other communities.

While summer learning can be part of a solution, it cannot be the sole solution. Research on programs like the one in Boston suggests that participants make up about one-quarter of a year's worth of learning in math during a six-week summer program. That takes us part of the way, but nowhere near as far as we need to go.

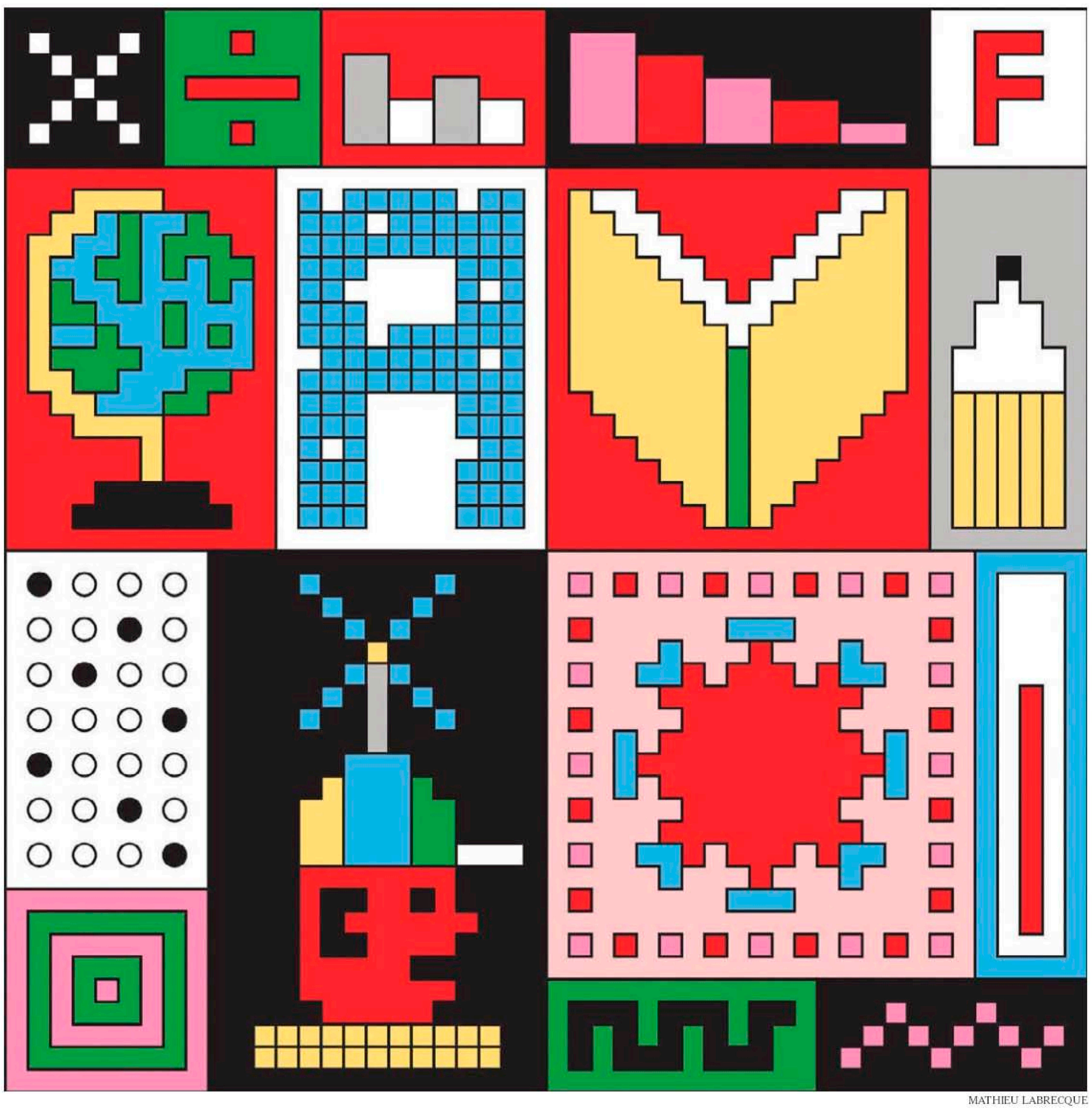
Communities must find other ways to add learning opportunities outside the typical school calendar. Most educational software — like Zearn and Khan Academy — makes it possible to track students' use and progress. Schools could incentivize organizations working with students after school, on weekends or during school vacation weeks to include time for students to learn online and then reimburse them based on students' progress. Some districts are even paying tutoring providers based on student outcomes.

Especially in the hardest-hit communities, it is increasingly obvious that many students will not have caught up before the federal money runs out in 2024. School boards and state legislatures should start planning now for longer-term policy changes. One possibility would be to offer an optional fifth year of high school for students to fill holes in academic skills, get help with applying to college or to explore alternative career pathways. Students could split their time among high schools, community colleges and employers. Another option would be to make ninth grade a triage year during which students would receive intensive help in key academic subjects.

As enticing as it might be to get back to normal, doing so will just leave in place the devastating increase in inequality caused by the pandemic. In many communities, students lost months of learning time. Justice demands that we replace it. We must find creative ways to add new learning opportunities in the summer, after school, on weekends or during a 13th year of school.

If we fail to replace what our children lost, we — not the coronavirus — will be responsible for the most inequitable and longest-lasting legacy of the pandemic. But if we succeed, that broader and more responsive system of learning can be our gift to America's schoolchildren.

An in-depth analysis of learning loss reveals how much we don't know.



MATHIEU LABRECQUE

OPINION

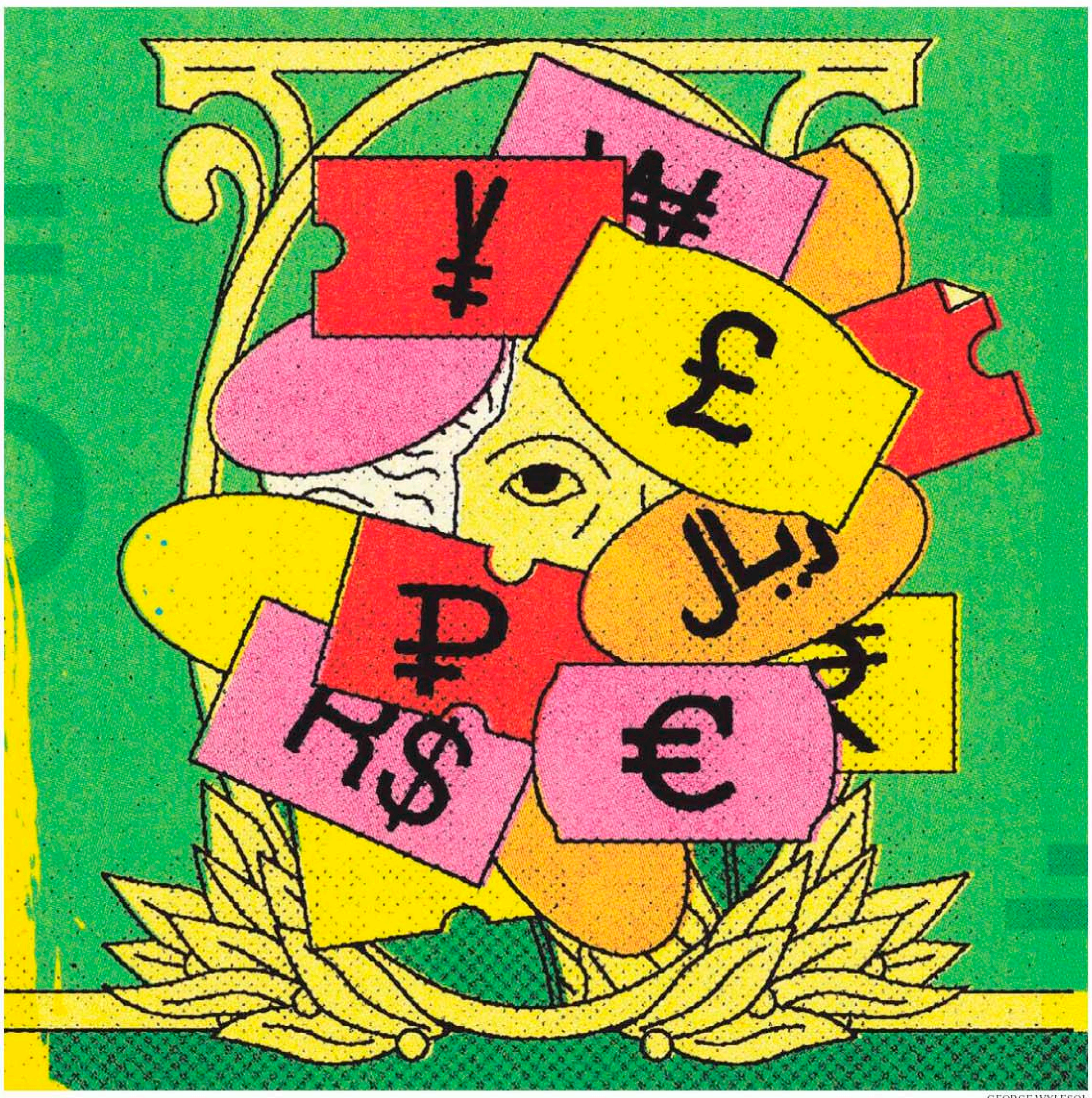
Republicans Are Putting Our Standard of Living at Risk

Mike Lofgren
An author and a former staff member of the House and Senate Budget Committees.

SINCE 1960, Congress has acted 78 times to increase the statutory debt limit to avert a government default. Indeed, when I worked in Congress, from the mid-1980s to 2011, after a bit of posturing Congress always increased the debt ceiling — and created the expectation that debt-limit fights were a seasonal Washington ritual, like the cherry blossoms or the Marine Corps marathon, of no existential importance.

But lifting the debt is no longer more or less routine, especially when Republicans control the House. That is the case now: The meeting last Tuesday between President Biden and Speaker Kevin McCarthy reportedly produced no movement on how to end the impasse over the federal debt.

Attitudes about what a sovereign default would mean seem to have changed among some House Republicans, who are holding hostage the full faith and credit of the United States. They often confuse the debt-limit vote with a government shutdown or have convinced themselves that a sovereign default is no big deal. They might consider that a debt default could threaten the dollar's status as world reserve currency. Indeed, with their risky posturing, congressional Republicans are playing Russian roulette with America's primacy in the global financial system, a privileged position undergirding our standard of living and international influence.


GEORGE WYLESOL

A debt default could bring down the dollar.

The only beneficiaries of default would be adversarial actors like Russia and China. To avoid even the possibility of this outcome, President Biden would be advised to take all available measures to avert such a calamity.

The ideological extremism of the House Republicans is infamous; they passed a bill that would "solve" the crisis by nullifying much of Mr. Biden's agenda and forcing spending cuts of up to 20 percent on some agencies while conveniently teeing up yet another debt crisis before the 2024 election.

A sovereign debt default has always alarmed economists, who detail a range of damaging scenarios that could spell turmoil: recession, a plunge in equities, a halt in Social Security payments and panic in money market funds. Banking liquidity would also be at significant risk in the wake of the collapse of First Republic Bank, the second-largest American bank failure in history.

But apparently these concerns don't move some House Republicans. So they might consider another potential scenario: Ever since President Richard Nixon de-linked the dollar from gold, doomsayers have predicted the demise of the dollar. This prophecy has to date proved wrong; the dollar's dominance is hardly less than it was in Nixon's time, and it actually strengthened its safe-haven status during the pandemic. Having the world reserve currency has allowed the United States to run very large budget, merchandise trade and current account deficits for decades. The dollars flowing abroad as a result of those deficits are needed by other countries to purchase commodities like oil and to conduct other trade. Nations with dollar surpluses can't sit on them; they recycle them as investments in the United States. That is why New York has the most liquid financial markets in the world. These strong markets in turn encourage many foreign central banks to hold their assets in New York as well.

China and Russia have been trying for years to dethrone the dollar as the world reserve currency, with meager success. The fact that most international financial settlements are cleared in dollars makes Washington's economic sanctions on rogue regimes a real threat.

Convenient economic arrangements like the dollar's global primacy are sufficiently stable and "locked in" that we might be tempted to think they are eternal. By this logic, if a default occurs, the money centers in Europe and East Asia will shrug it off and make dollar transactions and purchase U.S. debt instruments just as before.

But as with the British pound, the world currency until World War I, international willingness to use a currency works until circumstances dictate otherwise. A default is unlikely to bring instant Armageddon, but it's possible, maybe even probable, that it would contribute to a slow unraveling. Foreign investors would begin to hedge on buying U.S. debt, or explore using the euro or a basket of stable currencies. Following a default, oil exporters would be more likely to accept payment in instruments other than dollars.

The consequences of a default in 2023 would probably be more serious than economists have predicted for past political deadlocks. The world has seen three years of pandemic, along with supply-chain disruptions, global inflation and a major European war that has no end in sight. U.S. sovereign default could be the culmination of a world "polycrisis," a word that refers to the current swirl of global emergencies.

A post-default U.S. economy would have to retrench, as enormous trade deficits could no longer be absorbed by the rest of the world. America would need more income from exportable manufacturing, whereas consumption would have to be curtailed. In short, the American standard of living would probably drop until domestic production and consumption came into balance. America has long rested on what many call the dollar's "exorbitant privilege." As with Britain's retreat from empire after World War II, balance of payments problems could make U.S. global dominance an unaffordable luxury.

In December, the Chinese president, Xi Jinping, met with Mohammed bin Salman, the de facto ruler of Saudi Arabia, and discussed the possibility of China settling its oil bill with its own currency. This March, China and Brazil agreed to abandon the dollar in bilateral trade. Should the United States default, such deals could become templates for a broader international move from the dollar.

Constitutional experts have urged the president to invoke the 14th Amendment to require the Treasury to pay legal debts and underscore the inadmissibility of default. Mr. Biden's advisers appear divided on the issue, but the consequences of default are so grave that, if needed, Mr. Biden must, like Lincoln, ignore counsel and use the tools at hand to safeguard the vital interests of the country.

When Faced With a Tough Choice, I Pull Out My Notepad

Robert E. Rubin
The U.S. Treasury secretary from 1995 to 1999 and the author of "The Yellow Pad" and "In an Uncertain World."

NOT long after my appointment as director of President Clinton's National Economic Council in 1993, a letter arrived in my West Wing office. I immediately recognized the writer's name: Mrs. Dorothy Collins.

"Are you the same Robbie Rubin," the letter asked, "who was in my fourth-grade class at North Beach Elementary School?"

On one level, Mrs. Collins's question had a straightforward answer: Yes. But on another level, the answer to Mrs. Collins's question was deeper than a simple yes or no. In 1947, when I sat in her classroom, my life could have gone in any number of directions. Today, after over half a century in business, government and politics, I find myself contemplating a different version of Mrs. Collins's question. Of all the ways a fourth grader's life could unfold, why did mine go the way it did?

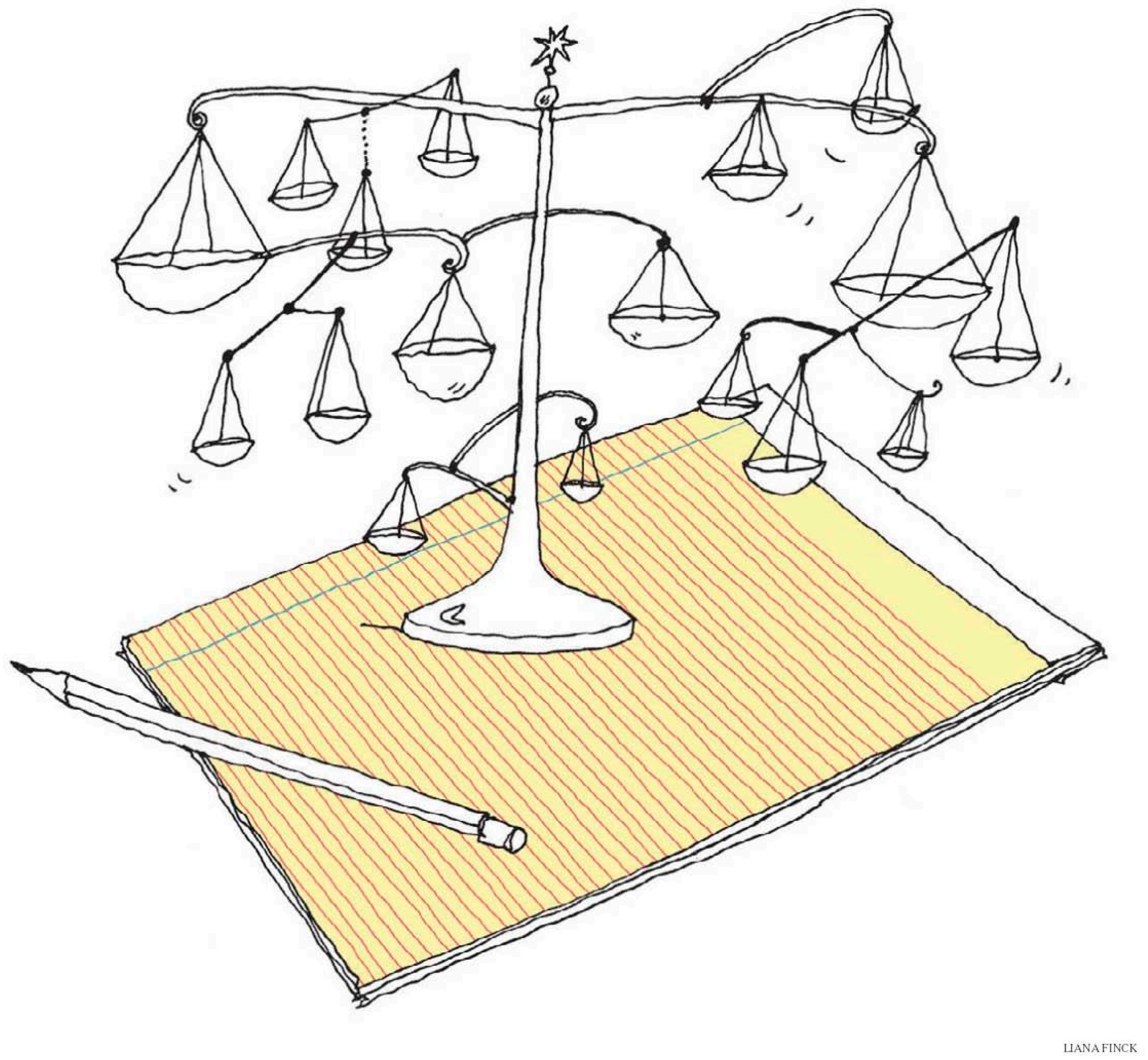
Some people have grand visions for their lives and careers, but I've never been one of them. When I was in fourth grade, my goal was to get to fifth grade. When I was in fifth grade, my goal was to get to sixth. Looking back, I think it is fair to say that my life, like most people's, has been shaped to a large degree by luck and circumstances beyond my control.

But it also seems clear that my answer to Mrs. Collins's question has a great deal to do with decisions I've made or been part of. And even more consequential than my choices themselves is my overall approach to decision-making, one I've developed and honed over more than six decades.

Throughout that time, I've been part of many teams facing immense challenges. Yet I believe the challenges that face my children's and grandchildren's generations — from climate change and nuclear proliferation to income inequality and the rise of authoritarianism at home and abroad — will be far greater than those my generation was forced to confront. The need for a sound decision-making approach in the face of uncertainty has always been great, but it is now greater than ever before.

At the heart of my own approach is "probabilistic thinking," the idea that nothing is 100 percent certain and that everything is therefore a matter of probabilities. Whether my choices would affect a few people or millions of people, my preferred tool for applying probabilistic thinking has always been the same: a simple yellow legal pad. On my yellow pad (or more recently, my iPad), I'll list possible outcomes in one column, and then my best estimates of the probabilities associated with those outcomes in another.

My goal has never been to quantify every aspect of every decision; that would be impossible. Instead, my yellow pad has become both metaphor and means, a way of applying a questioning mind-set and incorporating probabilistic thinking into the real world.


LIANA FINCK

There are, of course, decisions throughout my life that looking back I should have made differently. But the yellow pad has served me well, allowing me to think in disciplined ways about risks, probabilities, costs and benefits, and substantially increasing my odds of making the best possible choice. What's more, I believe the yellow-pad approach can be beneficial for everyone.

For example, applying probabilistic thinking to real-world events changes the way one thinks about risk. Too often, decision makers trying to anticipate a risk focus on a single potential outcome, or perhaps a small handful of outcomes. Probabilistic thinkers, on the other hand, recognize that risk is a wide range of possibilities.

Consider the standoff over the debt ceiling currently taking place in Washington. While many leaders are appropriately concerned about the risks, I fear that other leaders — and the markets — have grown complacent. The United States has always found a way to honor its debts in the past, including during the serious debt-ceiling standoff that occurred when I was secretary of the Treasury. Even the lawmakers threatening it today seem to view default as unimaginable. I myself view default as highly unlikely.

But highly unlikely is not the same thing as impossible. In the short term, government, business leaders and investors should make their decisions taking into account the small but real risk that debt-limit brinkmanship can lead to severe economic consequences. In the long term, policymakers must recognize that even if the risk associated with any one debt-ceiling standoff is low, allowing repeated standoffs will drive the cumulative risk ever higher. To me, this probabilistic assessment of risk seems reason enough to eliminate the debt limit entirely, and to allow lawmakers to debate priorities during the budget process — including fiscal discipline, which I believe is critical to our economic success — without reneging on the full faith and credit of the United States to meet commitments already made.

Thoughtful, rational decision-making is more important than ever.

Those who employ a yellow-pad approach and incorporate probabilistic thinking into their decision-making also tend to be more aware of and open to trade-offs. One can and should have principles and priorities. But principles and priorities often conflict, and it is important to have an effective approach to decision-making when they do.

For example, I remain deeply concerned about the long-term trajectory of our debt-to-G.D.P. ratio. Yet during the Covid crisis, I publicly supported the $1.9 trillion rescue plan proposed by President Biden and backed by all but one congressional Democrat. Someone with a more absolutist mind-set might see these two positions as mutually exclusive. But I examined the likely costs, did the same with the likely benefits, and then made a judgment that the latter outweighed the former. Performing that kind of analysis — one that doesn't shy away from nuance and complexity — is an essential element of sound decision-making.

Employing the yellow pad also helps one learn the right lessons from the past. Here, the mistake people too often make is to judge a prior decision solely based on the outcome that occurred. Outcomes do matter. But they're not all that matters.

One common way in which outcomes can be deceiving involves pursuing a course of action with a high potential benefit but a low chance of success. This is what happened during the Clinton administration when the Russian economy fell into crisis and we had to decide whether to support it. We concluded that intervention was unlikely to work. But we also concluded that, in the unlikely event an intervention did work, it would be so beneficial to our efforts to foster political reform in Russia (something that was at the time a realistic possibility) that it was worth trying despite the low odds of success. As it turned out, the higher probability outcome occurred, and we had to abandon our intervention.

A few years later, at the end of my term, the incoming Treasury secretary from a new administration said this proved that the United States and the International Monetary Fund made the wrong call regarding Russia. I remember being frustrated, not by the fact that a new administration disagreed with the previous one but by the argument the incoming secretary employed: that our efforts had not proved successful, so therefore we had been wrong to try. (When asked why he approved of our economic intervention in Mexico, which was similar to that in Russia, he again pointed to outcomes: "What I liked about it is that it worked.") Evaluating decisions solely based on outcomes rather than also analyzing the judgments that led to the decision and took place before those outcomes occurred can cause leaders to learn the wrong lessons going forward.

There is no secret that will allow us to overcome the most dangerous and difficult challenges we face. There is, however, a pressing need for leaders of today and tomorrow to make the best possible decisions in an uncertain world. To borrow the spirit of Mrs. Collins's question, what we will become — as individuals, as a country, and even as a planet — is likely to depend on it.

OPINION

I Got My Name From Connie Chung. So Did They.

Connie Wang
The author of "Oh My Mother! A Memoir in Nine Adventures."

IT WAS on my first day of college at the University of California, Berkeley, when I started to realize there were more of us out there. I was among a student body that was almost 50 percent Asian. While I was standing in line to order a sandwich at the campus cafe, I heard a voice from across the room: "Connie Wang!"

I swiveled to see who it could be — I didn't know anyone yet. But the person wasn't shouting at me. Instead, a girl standing nearby waved in response.

Afterward, I went back to my dorm room and typed "Connie" into the campus Facebook. I found the girl from the sandwich line — and I also found many, many more. In my freshman class alone, there was a Connie Zheng, a Connie Guo, a Connie Xu, a few Connie Chengs and several Connie Wangs. No wonder the university email address I'd wanted had been taken.

All this time, I'd thought the story of my name was special; little did I know it was the story of a generation. Unlike most people, I was able to pick my own name. I already had one, of course — Xiaokang, my Chinese name, given to me by my maternal grandfather, which referred to the Communist Party's commitment to achieving "a moderately prosperous society." But in 1990, my parents decided to raise me in the United States, and we all had a chance to choose a new identity. They asked for my 3-year-old opinion: What would I like to be called in this new place? I answered, the story goes, with Connie, after that pretty "ayi," or auntie, we watched on TV.

That ayi was Constance Yu-Hwa Chung, or, as the world knows her, Connie Chung. Ms. Chung had rejoined CBS News a year earlier; she would eventually become the first Asian and second woman to be an anchor of a major weekday news program, appearing nightly alongside Dan Rather to deliver the world's biggest news events to Americans at home, my family included.

At the time, my mother, Qing Li, was recalibrating her expectations for what her life would look like. She'd been an editor of nonfiction books back in China but found the prospect of attempting to climb the professional ladder in the United States without mastery of the language deeply intimidating. Some friends told her that other Chinese immigrants had found employment at restaurants, so she tried that for a while, but the job was boring, and she quit. So much of her early years in America felt both formidable and dull, isolating and overwhelming.

What gave her some comfort, though, was seeing Ms. Chung on TV. Here was a woman with a face like hers, with great taste in clothes, who wore beautiful makeup and had stylish hair, yet asked aggressive questions of powerful people, most of whom did not seem to treat Ms. Chung any differently because of her appearance.

Connie Chung was trusted and respected — qualities that my mother herself had enjoyed in China. So when I picked my name, my mom readily acceded. What more could she hope for from her own Connie?

What my family didn't know was that a version of the same scenario was playing out in living rooms and hospitals across the country. Asian American families from the late 1970s through the mid-'90s — mostly Chinese, all new immigrants — had considered the futures of their newborn daughters and, inspired by one of the few familiar faces on their TVs, signed their own wishes, hopes and ambitions onto countless birth certificates in the form of a single name: Connie.

Today, it's common to join an organization, take a new job or attend a conference and meet an Asian Connie; at every workplace, I've been one of a few. And with each of them, I've found it's always the same story: No, it's not short for Constance. Yes, they grew up watching Connie Chung on TV. And yeah — it *is* weird, isn't it, that they've never met a non-Asian Connie their age either?

Because Connie is not a popular name — not now, not when I chose it and not for many decades prior. According to the Social Security Administration, "Connie" peaked in the 1950s, when it was the 40th most popular name for girls. In 1987, the year I was born, even "Priscilla" was more popular. And still, I've had an enormously difficult time securing social media handles, usernames and company email addresses.

Over the years, I've come to realize that I'm part of a phenomenon: Generation Connie. By now, I've talked to dozens of Connies in this sisterhood and learned that we have a remarkable amount in common — that it is not by chance that our families and, in particular, our mothers, all gravitated toward the same name. We all have our own stories about how our families came to the United States and why they chose the name they did. But we're also part of a larger story: about the patterns that form from specific immigration policies and the ripple effects



that one woman on TV prompted just by being there, doing her job.

CONNIE CHUNG was born in 1946 in Washington, D.C., the last of 10 children, five of whom died in infancy. Her family fled China in 1945; she was the first to be born in this country.

From the hospital, her father, an official with the Chinese Nationalist government, phoned her four older sisters at home to pick a name for their new sibling. Flipping through a magazine, they landed at random on Constance Moore, an Iowa-born starlet who had made her name in wartime musicals. But no one ever called the new baby Constance, Ms. Chung told me: "It was always Connie."

In college, Ms. Chung found her biology major uninspiring and eventually secured an internship on Capitol Hill. The pace was exciting, and she decided to switch to journalism. She picked television because it was novel, and with TV stations in the 1960s being pushed to diversify their ranks, she figured she might have a better chance. Ms. Chung was quickly hired by a local news station and soon afterward began working at CBS News as a correspondent under Walter Cronkite.

"In the beginning, what helped me get the job was being a minority and a woman. But from that moment it was a detriment," Ms. Chung said. "I was working in a newsroom dominated by white men, I was covering white men in Washington — a male-dominated city and government. It was surprising and disconcerting for all of them, including me."

It could be lonely at times, especially at the start. "I was just trying to keep my head above water," Ms. Chung said. What she couldn't have known is how many Asian families were already paying attention.

One of those families was the Lius, who moved from China to Ohio in 1989. Connie Liu's mother, Bing Han, had been a nurse in China, ended up working at Panda Express and Four Seasons hotels as a housekeeper. Ms. Liu, 28, relayed what her mother had recently told her about when it came time to name her daughter: "I wanted you to be known," her mother said, at a time when "a lot of Asian females were not known."

"She was like, 'I want to find the most ambitious person around and name my child after them,'" Ms. Liu said. "For an Asian female, that was basically only Connie Chung."

Another family, the Chungs (no relation to the news anchor), immigrated from South Korea to Arizona in the early '80s and worked odd jobs to get by. Connie Chung, 37, told me her parents didn't speak a lot of English at home and didn't know a lot of American names. When they were naming their daughter, they looked to TV for inspiration and zeroed in on the woman who had just joined NBC as an anchor for several prime-time specials. "This is a name we know with a face we recognize that looks like us," Ms. Chung said of her parents' thinking. "And our kid is going to be American and hopefully achieve things like this woman did."

For many families like mine, the journalist was a symbol of immigrant success.

Connie Chung Joe was born in 1977, making her, at 45, one of the oldest of the Connies I interviewed for this article. At the time, the original Connie Chung had left her job at CBS and had returned to local news stations to gain more anchor experience. She was working in Los Angeles, a big market, but was not yet a household name. Even so, she "was *the* success story," Ms. Joe said.

Ms. Joe was given the name Connie by her mom, one of a handful of women to graduate from her medical school in South Korea. Ms. Joe's mother "came from a world where she didn't feel like she could have the same level of success and power" as a woman, her daughter told me. But America might be different, her mom thought. People saw Connie Chung every night on TV; she was famous and popular. She'd made it.

There was an additional appeal to the name: Many of the Mandarin-speaking Connies I spoke to pointed out that the Mandarin for "healthy girl" — "kang ni" — sounds an awful lot like Connie. I heard similar stories from Cantonese speakers and, in one case, from a daughter of Vietnamese immigrants. The readily pronounceable "Connie" sat at the center of a Venn diagram of extended families back home and new classmates, teachers and peers in America; it was a bridge that helped ease the transition to a new home.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY CONNIE ARAMAKI FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

MY OWN family's first stop in America was the Midwest: specifically, the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, where my father was studying as part of the first wave of Chinese students who were allowed to leave mainland China to earn advanced degrees.

During my father's second year, while my mother was visiting, he attended a protest on campus in solidarity with the students congregating in Tiananmen Square. When a photo from the protest ran in The Lincoln Star, someone anonymously informed my father's parents back in Qingdao of what their son was up to — an ambiguous threat that indicated my family was being watched. And so, along with so many other Chinese grad students studying in the United States, my parents took advantage of a fast-track green card offer in response to what in China is euphemistically called the "June 4 Incident." What was supposed to be a stint in America turned into a permanent move for my parents, who were highly educated, politically shaken and, apparently, stuck.

After earning his Ph.D., my father found work in his field, as an engineer at tech companies. My mother eventually became an accountant, organizing numbers instead of words into sense. Her resentment at having to do this was matched only by her insistence that I should never have to. She pressured me to achieve in school, like other Chinese mothers I knew, but she gave me the freedom to head in any direction so long as I could be good at it, and useful. The other girls in my classes at weekend Chinese school, whose names were split between the popular names of the 1980s (Jessica, Amy, Jennifer) and the phonetic spellings of their Chinese names (Meng, Qian, Yun), marveled at the latitude I enjoyed.

The story of Generation Connie is a small slice of the story of Asian immigration to the United States, much of which is not unique to us. Changes to immigration law in 1965 brought a wave of ambitious and relatively fortunate families to this country who then had to find new footholds, often in majority-white communities. Their American-born children were all raised with the dreams, worries and aspirations that form out of profound culture shock.

But the names these parents gave their children represented so many different approaches to handling this shock: holding on, letting go, diving in, reaching out for a lifeline. I don't think it's a coincidence that all the Connies I spoke to describe their mothers in similar terms: as leaders, brave, athletic, creative, successful, idealistic, capable. These moms were architects, editors and medical professionals, who'd often had to abandon their careers and reinvent themselves upon moving to a new country, who looked at the television and saw how things might be different for their daughters.

I obviously understood none of this when I inked the name Connie onto the paper Social Security card I got when my family became permanent residents. But today, when I look at my own name, I see every footnote.

IN EARLY 2020, while working on a memoir, I cold-emailed Connie Chung. To my surprise, she responded. During our first phone conversation, she was sharp, hilarious and down to earth. She excused herself to get a cocktail from her husband (Maury!) and regaled me with stories about her short-lived talk show, "Weekends With Maury and Connie," which she had closed out by singing an off-key torch song (the only video I could find of it on YouTube is titled "Connie Chung has lost it"). She was working on some new projects, taking care of family members and, obviously, paying close attention to the news (had I heard about this Covid thing?).

"It's so nice to meet another Connie," she told me toward the end of our call. "But didn't you know?" I responded. "There are so many of us out here. Named after you." "You're kidding," she said. "*No way*."

"When you first told me about this phenomenon, I was flabbergasted," Ms. Chung said when we talked again this spring. "I was truly floored." I told her what dozens of Connies had told me: that they were proud of being associated with Ms. Chung, that they were grateful that they always knew there was a Connie who had gone first.

I shared with Ms. Chung what Connie Chung — the one from Arizona — had told me, about how other children used to make fun of her name when she was growing up. "As a kid, that just made me want to die inside," she said. When the Arizona Ms. Chung married, she was eager to take her husband's last name. "I was like, 'I'm not going to be Connie Chung anymore!'"

But as time passed, she found herself thinking differently about what her parents were trying to do when they named her. "I've thought a lot about it," she said, "and what it would be like for me to immigrate to a completely new country and have all these thoughts and ideas about what my life would be like and achieving the American dream and the hopes that I would have for my kids." A year later, she changed her name back.

Ms. Chung — the original — grew quiet. "I think what I'm about to say is very Chinese, but I saw myself as a worker bee who was trying to survive in a business that was very brutal," she said. She'd never thought about how she was being seen by others: "I was just clawing my way through a lot of hazing, and sexual and racial reactions to my existence. I was clueless, really. I couldn't imagine what anyone was perceiving as a viewer, or if anyone noticed."

I've long had a fraught relationship with the idea of representation. Seeing ourselves — or rather, the wealthiest, best resourced, most assimilated among us — on magazine covers and television screens is the smallest symbol of our status as Americans and comes with its own forms of exclusion and bigotry. When headlines celebrating Asian American films with Asian American casts run next to articles about Asian American disenfranchisement and poverty, representation can feel particularly empty.

I know all that — but I also know its power: how a single person can become a vehicle for so many others' most personal hopes; how they can find, in her, a sense of belonging that's otherwise in short supply.

A few weeks later, as part of a photo shoot for this article, The New York Times invited Connie Chung into a studio with 10 other Connies named after her. The group went out to dinner afterward. I couldn't make the cross-country flight in time to attend, and it wasn't until after the session was over, and I listened to the recordings of the day, that it became clear what an emotional moment we had inadvertently engineered.

Ms. Chung went around shaking hands. The Connies took turns sharing their stories — how their parents came to America, what life was like when they were born and how their mothers found comfort in Ms. Chung's presence on TV. Connie Sun, 42, talked about how her mom tried meticulously to recreate Ms. Chung's hairstyle and how she gave her daughter the name Connie partly as a gesture of hope that she would speak perfect English — because "she didn't know that that was like an automatic thing if you're born here, right?"

When it was her turn, Connie Koh told Ms. Chung how she, not her parents, chose the name Connie. "From your crib?" Ms. Chung said, joking. "How did you do that?" The room laughed, but by then Ms. Koh, 35, had started to tear up. She explained she'd picked the name after college, when she decided she needed an American name in addition to her Korean name, Keon Yeong. "You're an iconic person," she told Ms. Chung, who had also grown teary.

Ms. Koh told me later that she became emotional because she remembered how, when she chose her name, she was desperate to be able to stand up for herself as Ms. Chung had throughout her career. "Meeting Connie Chung felt like a miracle," Ms. Koh wrote to me in an email.

At the photo shoot, the photographer, Connie Aramaki, 46, told Ms. Chung that she'd originally thought her parents had chosen the name Connie because they wanted their daughter to become a journalist like Ms. Chung. Now she'd come to appreciate what they actually intended: "What it means is your parents want you to work hard, and be brave and take chances."

Ms. Chung's voice, normally clear and confident, was barely audible on the tape I'd been sent: "I did do that," she said quietly, and I felt something unfasten in my chest.

America today looks very different from when Connie Chung was born, or even when my family immigrated. Young Asian Americans may never experience the same type of loneliness that Ms. Chung did or the longing that my mother harbored for the assurance that things might be OK, that her daughters would have a fighting chance in ways that she had given up on for herself.

None of this is enough to declare victory; the hurdles remain so high for so many. But it is a small triumph that I can now imagine my child looking back with curiosity on the days when a single news anchor could matter so, so much.



'I also wanted her to be famous.'

— Bing Han, with her daughter Connie Liu, 28. The Liu family moved from China to the United States in 1989.



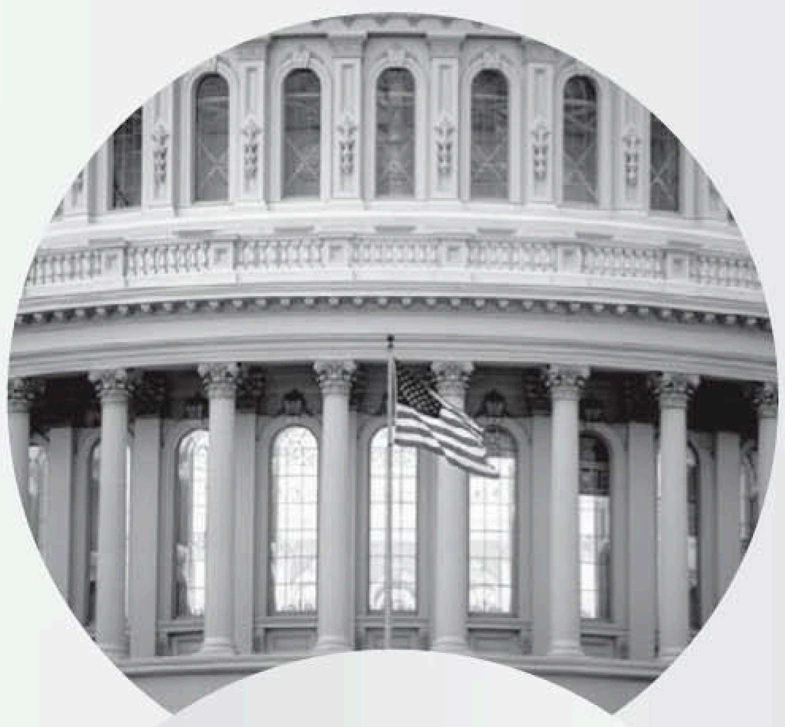
'We wanted our daughter to be just as successful as she is.'

— May Ho, with her daughter Connie Chung, 34. The family moved to Buffalo in 1986.



'We watched TV. We saw Connie.'

— Min Xu, with her daughter Connie Wu, 29. Ms. Xu left China in the early 1990s and met Ms. Wu's father, also a Chinese immigrant, in the Bay Area.



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OPINION

PLAYBACK | MATTER OF OPINION

Should We Just Go Ahead and Pay Justice Thomas $1 Million a Year?

Michelle Cottle, Ross Douthat, Carlos Lozada and Lydia Polgreen

Writers for Opinion and the hosts of the podcast "Matter of Opinion."

HAS Justice Clarence Thomas violated ethical guidelines? Does the Supreme Court have a recusal problem? What would accountability for justices even look like? The credibility of the court is one of the most contentious issues in a hyperpartisan America.

Four Times Opinion writers sat down and discussed these questions — and much more — for the inaugural episode of the new podcast "Matter of Opinion." This weekly show will feature the four hosts conversing on topics including, but not limited to, the Republican primaries, American foreign policy and HBO dramas.

"Matter of Opinion" is available at NYTimes.com and through any podcast player. Episodes are released on Thursdays. This conversation has been edited for length and clarity.

Michelle Cottle: So today it's our first episode and we're talking about Clarence Thomas, the Supreme Court justice. A slew of stories have revealed that he and his wife have received many gifts — many, many gifts — from a rich pal who also happens to be a big donor to conservative causes and candidates.

And by gifts, I don't mean nice baseball tickets or a holiday cheese basket. We're looking at Kardashian-level luxe here. Can someone just recap what's been happening for the last month or so? Carlos?

Carlos Lozada: We're talking about the court today thanks largely to the folks at ProPublica, who over the past month have reported several big stories surrounding Clarence Thomas. We've learned a few things. First, that over the past 20 years, Clarence Thomas took some really nice luxury vacations paid by billionaire Harlan Crow. Fancy yachts, private resorts, overseas travel, private jets, that kind of thing.

Thomas said he didn't think he had to disclose this "personal hospitality" on his financial disclosure forms. We've learned that Harlan Crow purchased property from Clarence Thomas. In fact, he purchased the house that Thomas's mother reportedly still lives in. We've learned that Crow for some period of time paid for the private school tuition of Clarence Thomas's grandnephew.

At the very least, Harlan Crow is a pretty generous friend and Justice Thomas did not sufficiently disclose or acknowledge this generosity. And of course, even before all of this, public trust in the court was headed in the wrong direction, particularly in the aftermath of the leak of the Dobbs opinion and the overturning of Roe v. Wade.

Lydia Polgreen: I would just add a couple of things: There is an area of penumbra around some of the other justices and questions about their activities, as well. There was a story about the wife of Chief Justice John Roberts making $10 million over many years as a legal recruiter. That feels like a slightly different area of ethical questions.

There was also some questions about Neil Gorsuch and a piece of property that he sold. He was part of a group that sold it to the C.E.O. of a law firm. The other thing that's worth saying is that I think that there have also been questions generally over many years about justices taking these junkets, getting big book advances. I think those are, again, very different from the Thomas situation. But they're worth keeping in mind as we talk about who these people are, what kind of power they have, how you hold them accountable, and if they doing a good job of holding themselves accountable.

Ross Douthat: If I were writing an old-fashioned, pulpy 600-page novel about American politics and I were inventing a conservative billionaire, I would name him Harlan Crow. I think that's an important framework for the discussion.

Cottle: That's what really matters here.

Douthat: I think it's a curious scandal where most people, including most sensible people on the right of center, agree that there is something unseemly about the scale of undisclosed largess involved in the Crow-Thomas relationship.

At the same time, there's no actual quo alleged in any of this quid. It's 50 percent of a really big deal Supreme Court scandal, where people keep looking for the case where Thomas has cast aside judicial ethics — and nobody seems to have an example of that. It's more, as far as I can tell, a story about unseemliness rather than actual alleged corruption.

Cottle: But let's stipulate that that is very rarely what you're looking at in these situations. And with Thomas, in particular, it seems to be an accretion of perceived conflicts, including dealing with his wife Ginni, who is this on-fire conservative activist who hobnobs with groups and people who have business before the court.

But that said, I think it is important that we note that this is a nonpartisan issue, going-back-decades problem. The entire court needs some guardrails clearly because these folks have confused their job of interpreting the law with being above the law.

Polgreen: I think that's right. And I think being a true believer and not actually basing your opinions on this doesn't give you a pass. Ethics exist for a reason, not just to prevent you from doing the wrong thing but to prevent you from even *appearing* to have done the wrong thing.

And the appearance of impropriety is just as important as the actuality of impropriety — because sometimes it's hard to tell the difference. That, of course, is completely separate from whether anything can actually be done about it. To me, the bigger problem that we have is that we are living in a country that is so deeply divided and polarized, with institutions that are meant to check and balance one another that are just fundamentally broken. And so there just is really no way to hold anything or anybody to account in this situation.

Lozada: So Senator Richard Durbin, the Democrat who chairs the Judiciary Committee, has invited Chief Justice Roberts to testify and Roberts's response was to say how unusual it is for chief justices to appear before the Senate. He cited a few cases in which it had been for very low-stakes reasons — as if the higher the stakes, the less accountability there should be.

Then the court released this very generic statement on ethics, principles and practices — this very nonbinding statement saying, basically, "Surely we all agree that we're going to do the right thing." The lower court judges, to the contrary, are held to this thing called the Guidelines of the Judicial Conference of the United States, which is not binding on the high court.

I think that gets to Lydia's question of how we do this when there's no real mechanism in place to set stricter guidelines for the justices and when the long-term understanding has been that they do it themselves. Even recusal rules — when they decide to recuse themselves — is totally up to each individual justice.

Cottle: Which, again, has been a problem with Ginni Thomas, Clarence's wife, because of her known role in perhaps trying to overturn the 2020 presidential election and then the Supreme Court has to rule on a lot of these cases. This is a clear issue where a little recusal could have come in handy, but nope! Everybody on the court is so convinced of their immaculate conscience that they can't be bothered with such matters.

Douthat: Well, I mean, this is where the fundamental challenge is that the powers of the court are such that the ideological stakes involved in all decision making are extremely high. And so the justice who basically makes himself or herself a hyper-pure recuse-ist then ends up in the position of performing a perpetual self-sabotage on their own side in American politics.

And, of course, there's the view that the justices don't actually take sides and so on and that they are not supposed to be political actors. Right. But everyone knows that that's transparent nonsense. And one of the nice things I suppose about the last 10 years is that liberals who used to claim to believe this no longer say that they do because they no longer control the court.

Cottle: So the fun has been ruined for everyone. Everyone's unhappy.

Douthat: Everyone can now at last agree, but it does create permanent problems. There are conservatives who have their own long lists of complaints about liberal justices not recusing themselves. But the general issue of "you're not recusing enough" has been a resilient conversation on — or at least around — the court for a long time.

The other issue that's worth raising here is that there are ways in which I suspect that possibly all of the Supreme Court justices regard some compensation-related gray area, the book deals and junkets and everything else, as in a way they're due for taking a permanent pay cut to serve on this august body.

Cottle: Oh, poor bunnies.

Douthat: No, I'm not defending this view. I'm just trying to — at a human level, if you're a Supreme Court justice, you make a really, really nice salary. But you're not rich. You're not making the kind of money that your peers in corporate law firms, that people arguing cases before the court, are making. You exist, especially nowadays, in this bubble of anxiety and threats and security issues. And I strongly suspect that there's a psychological mechanism, where a lot of justices — again, not just Thomas — say, "This is actually hard service. And I'm not being adequately compensated for it."

Cottle: Anybody who's not working on Wall Street can make that justification, and Brett Kavanaugh, we all know, came out of the womb longing to be a Supreme Court justice. So you should be willing to trade a little bit of financial compensation and you don't get to travel on private jets all the time like your corporate law friends to be one of the most powerful people in the country.

Polgreen: I have to say I think that I for one would sign up for paying Supreme Court justices a whole lot more money. They are public servants who do a very important job and why shouldn't they be paid half a million dollars or, heck, even a million? It's only nine people. We can afford it.

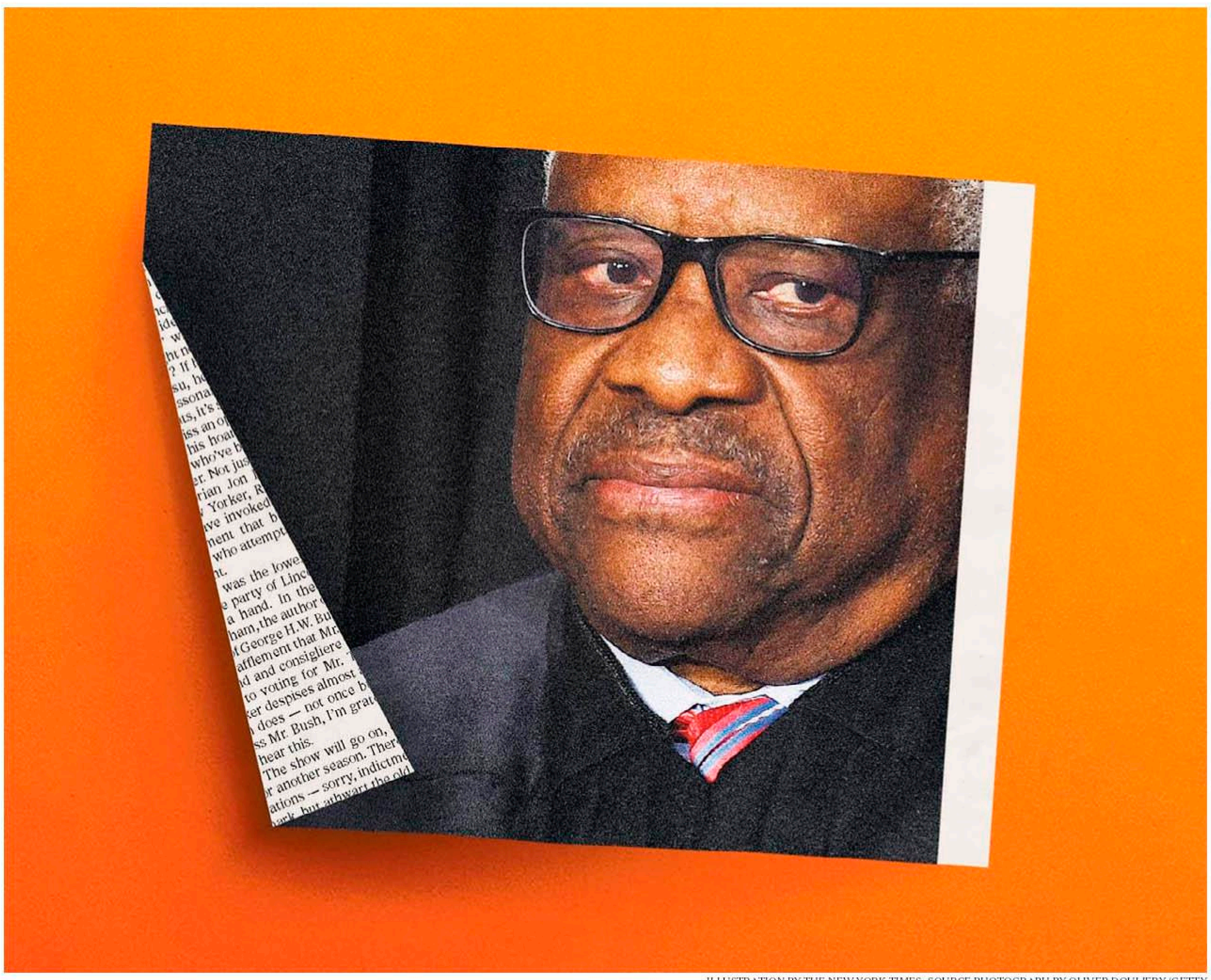


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OPINION

Putin Is Fighting, and Losing, His Last War

Timothy Snyder
A professor of history at Yale and the author of "Bloodlands: Europe Between Hitler and Stalin."

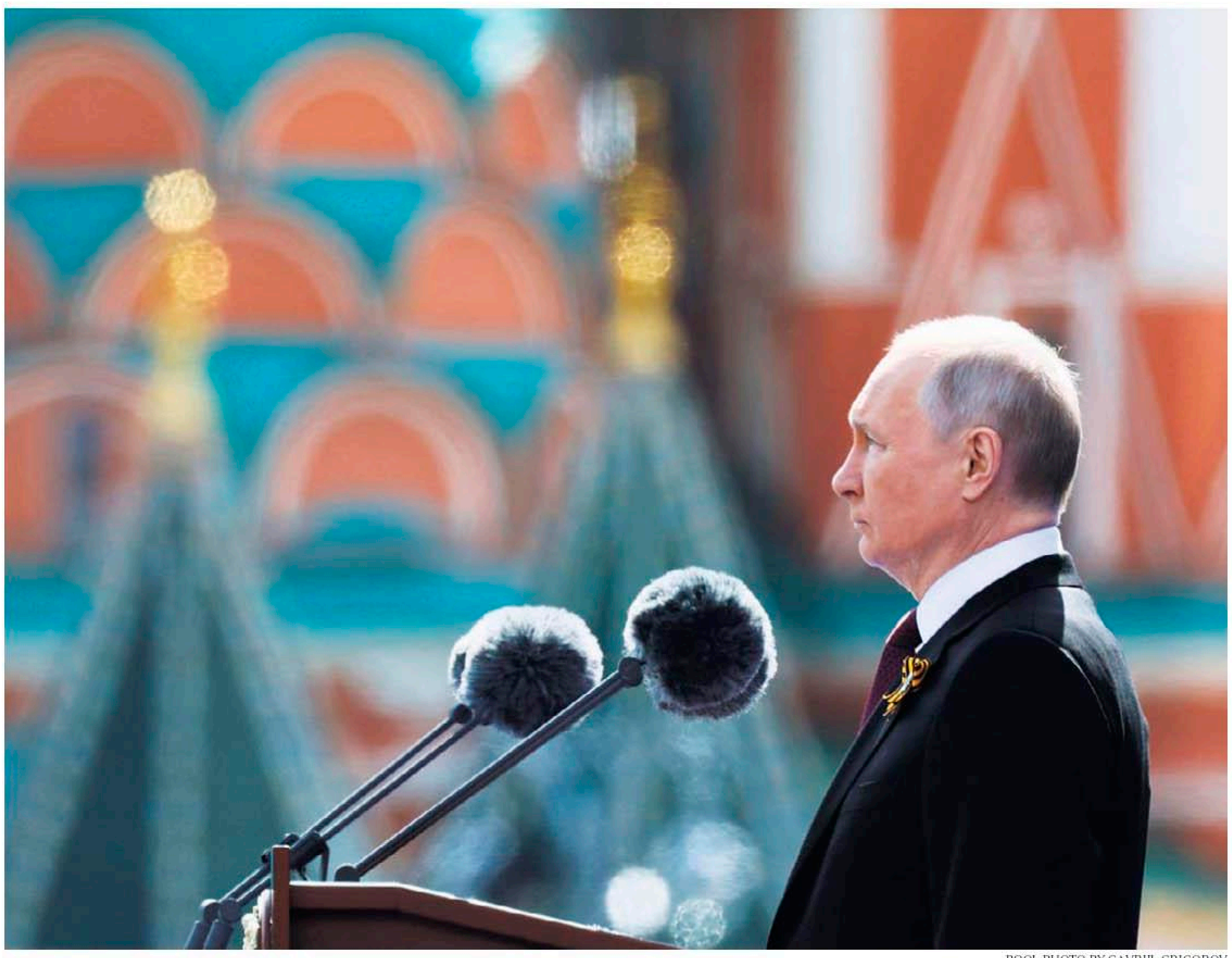
IN THE Brezhnev era of Vladimir Putin's youth, May 9 was an occasion for Soviet militarism, a celebration of weapons and might. It could be forgotten, at least for a moment, that Leonid Brezhnev's war of choice would be fought and lost in Afghanistan less than two decades after he began the May 9 celebrations, much as what is very likely Mr. Putin's last war is now being fought and lost in Ukraine.

During both conflicts, people in the West worried, understandably, about nuclear war. Today's Russia issues an unending stream of nuclear threats. In the West now, unlike during the Cold War, these are discussed in psychological rather than strategic terms: How does Mr. Putin feel? How do we feel?

Americans' fear of escalation delayed the supply of weapons that could have allowed Ukraine to win last year. One after the other, the weapons systems deemed escalatory have now been delivered, with no negative consequences. But the cost of delay can be observed in the Ukrainian territories that Russia still controls: the death pits, the torture chambers and the empty homes of kidnapped children. Tens of thousands of soldiers on both sides have unnecessarily died.

In nearly 15 months of war, despite Russian nuclear propaganda and Western anxiety, there has been no use of nuclear weapons. This is an absence worthy of an explanation. Those who predicted escalation if Ukrainians resisted, if the West supplied weapons or if Russia suffered defeat have thus far been wrong. Strategic thinkers point to deterrence and note that nuclear use would not in fact bring a Russian victory. It would ensure a dramatic Western response and make Russian leaders pariahs. But there is a deeper explanation: Russia's nuclear talk is itself the weapon.

It rests on false assumptions. Russian nuclear propaganda assumes that the bully always wins. But the bully does not always win. Russian propagandists want us to think that nuclear powers can never lose wars, on the logic that they could always deploy nuclear weapons to win. This is an ahistoric fantasy. Nuclear weapons did not bring the French victory in Algeria, nor did they preserve the British Empire. The Soviet Union lost its war in Afghanistan. America lost in Vietnam and in Iraq and in Afghanistan. Israel failed to win in Lebanon. Nuclear powers lose wars with some regularity.


POOL PHOTO BY GAVRIIL GRIGOROV

Some Americans have proposed a nuclear scenario in which Russians will have to use nuclear weapons to head off defeat. But Russia has been defeated in Ukraine, on its own terms, again and again. What it has proved is its ability to change those terms after each defeat. Russia failed to achieve the explicit aim of the "special military operation" to overthrow Ukraine's democratic government. There will be no greater humiliation than that. The defeat at Kyiv was followed by defeats at Kharkiv and Kherson. Each loss led to cover stories from Russia's state propagandists and their believers, to talk of good-will gestures, strategic withdrawals and so on. The escalation has been in the propagandists' workload.

Russia can lose without being cornered. It has 11 time zones of space for retreating soldiers and plenty of practice in propaganda refashionings. Indeed, Russian leaders have already indicated what they will do if they believe that they are losing: change the terms of reference and change the subject in Russian media. Mr. Putin's kleptocratic state as a whole and its dependencies such as the Wagner mercenary army are public relations projects with a military arm. The assumption in Russian politics is that rhetoric overcomes reality. And the rhetorical preparations for defeat have been made.

Beneath Mr. Putin's vague bellicosity is the idea that Russia wins if it avoids (in his words) "strategic defeat" imposed by NATO. Almost no matter what happens, it will be easy for him to define the war in Ukraine as a strategic victory. Since the Kremlin claims that it is fighting NATO, all Mr. Putin has to say is that Russia stopped NATO from crossing into Russia. The commander of Wagner wrote recently, in this spirit, that Russia can end the "special military operation" at any time and just claim that its goals have been achieved, so long as Russia does not retreat from any more occupied Ukrainian territory.

> Talk of nuclear weapons must be ended with Russia's swift defeat.

By taking nuclear blackmail seriously, we have actually increased the overall chances of nuclear war. If nuclear blackmail enables a Russian victory, the consequences will be incalculably awful. If any country with nuclear weapons can do whatever it likes, then law means nothing, no international order is possible, and catastrophe beckons at every turn. Countries without nuclear weapons will have to build them, on the logic that they will need nuclear deterrence in the future. Nuclear proliferation would make nuclear war much more likely in the future.

When we understand that nuclear talk is itself the weapon, we can act to make the situation less risky. The way forward to strategic thinking is to free ourselves from our own anxieties and consider the Russian ones. The Russians talk about nuclear weapons not because they mean to use them but because they believe a large nuclear arsenal makes them a superpower. Nuclear talk makes them feel powerful. They see nuclear bullying as their prerogative and believe that others should automatically yield at the first mention of their weapons. The Ukrainians have not allowed this to affect their tactics.

If Russia detonated a weapon, it would lose that jealously guarded treasure of superpower status. Such an act would constitute an admission that its army has been beaten — a tremendous loss of face. Worse still, neighbors would build (or build up) their own nuclear arsenals. That would deprive Russia of superpower status in the minds of the Russians themselves. That is, for the Russian leadership, the one intolerable outcome of this war. In my view, the greatest risk of a Russian nuclear action would therefore be one that Moscow would lay the blame for on Ukraine, such as the deliberate destruction of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant.

War is unpredictable. Military history is full of surprises. Mr. Putin has undertaken a war of atrocity, and further atrocities are certain as long as the war continues. Russia created not only needless suffering but also needless risk when it invaded Ukraine. We have to work within that world of risk and horror and evaluate it calmly. No option is without hazards; our responsibility is to reduce them. When Russians talk about nuclear war, the safest response is to ensure their very conventional defeat.

Let the City Grow Wild

Ben Wilson
A historian and the author of "Urban Jungle: The History and Future of Nature in the City."

IF ONLY all cities had forests like the one that slashes through Dallas. At 6,000 acres, the Great Trinity Forest is one of the largest urban woodlands in the United States, an expanse of hardwood trees, ponds, swamps and meandering creeks.

It is not its size that is remarkable so much as its wildness. Neglected, ignored and abused for years, much of it has become an impenetrable thicket with a dense understory that teems with wildlife — feral hogs, turtles, white-tailed deer, beavers, otters and alligators — all at a short distance from the skyscrapers of this very corporate American city.

Cities often contain perfected, simplified forms of nature, ones that look pretty but are biologically impoverished. But forget parks, neat and tidy as they are. Nature at its insurgent best insinuates itself in the gaps in the urban fabric: the soggy, unloved floodplain of Dallas, but also abandoned lots, roadsides and intersections, railroad lines, mortared walls, empty malls, disused factories, the edges of chain-link fences and the cracks in the concrete.

This is where we find the rough, tough vegetation and wildlife, adapted to living in proximity to us, seemingly against the odds. It is not the nature you might find in a national park, and that is why it is worth celebrating: for its sheer ability to survive and thrive in a hostile environment and nurture other life.

Every city has acres of in-between land that, if managed well, could become oases of greenery harboring insect, bird and other animal life. And with cities still reconfiguring themselves in the wake of the pandemic, the case for rethinking their purpose and potential could not be more urgent. We need to make urban areas more walkable, more fun and more livable, to be sure. But we should also make them greener. The city must be not just a place of wealth generation, culture and activity, but also a unique ecosystem that offers us protection against climate threats and a vital, visceral connection with wildlife.

Among the first to document the exuberance of urban ecosystems were casual observers and curious botanists in war-torn Europe in the 1940s. The rubble-strewn cities of World War II, to the astonishment of their inhabitants, very quickly brimmed with plant and animal life. The vegetation that emerged from the debris was totally unexpected, a cornucopia of exotic, often nonnative species that were adept at exploiting and thriving in the damage. Blitzed areas of London brimmed with pink swaths of rosebay willow herb — "bombweed," as it was nicknamed. In central Münster, Germany, piles of rubble were veiled with spontaneously growing pussy willow, mountain maple, birches, yellow mulleins and wild strawberry.

These disaster-loving plants often evolved on coastal cliffs, arid mountainsides and other inhospitable places: pioneers of nature that reclaimed scarred territory and prepared the way for larger shrubs and woody species. They had come to the city accidentally over the centuries, concealed in shipping containers or as hitchhikers on the tires of vehicles and the soles of boots. And they had been there, biding their time, until the destruction of war allowed them to run riot and make bombed-out cities look amazingly verdant. They became the key components of a distinctively novel and amazingly diverse urban ecosystem.

It was in West Berlin in the 1950s that urban ecology became a science. One of its earliest pioneers, the botanist Herbert Sukopp, noted that the city's ecology was in continual flux as nature responded to changes in the human-made environment. Neglected sites were profuse in biodiversity, often containing many more species of plants and insects than nearby parks or even the countryside.

Today in Berlin, a patch of wildness called the Natur-Park Südgelände has bloomed in what was once among the city's busiest railroad yards. Like the Great Trinity Forest, first it was abandoned and then hundreds of species took over, many of them endangered. But in contrast to Trinity, its wildness is now carefully stewarded. Elevated metal walkways give visitors access without disturbing rare flowers and ground-nesting birds; pockets of precious grassland and meadow flowers are protected by mowing and grazing sheep.

This is a work of intention rather than simple neglect; the Südgelände is biologically successful because it was unplanned. But, paradoxically, it has remained successful because humans now play a superintending role, managing it for both our needs and biodiversity. It is a model for how we can integrate wildscapes into the cityscape.

Imagine a city latticed with lightly cultivated wild spaces, microforests and roadside meadows. (For that matter, imagine the manicured neatness of suburbia blooming with wildlife gardens in place of ecologically impoverished, pesticide-soaked lawns.) That would be a different kind of city, where the human and the natural coil together and where the conventional cityscape is visually enriched by exuberant wildlife.

In the English city of Sheffield, the landscape architects Nigel Dunnett and James Hitchmough chose plants that thrive in disturbed, acidic, dry and nutrient-poor urban environments for densely planted, low-maintenance, self-generating meadows that are the opposite of carefully groomed urban parks, but no less beautiful. In the Netherlands the new policy of Tijdelijke Natuur (Temporary Nature) encourages landowners to allow habitats to establish themselves for a limited period on lots destined for development. The practice acknowledges cities as places that continually create, destroy and recreate areas of biodiversity.

> To survive a hotter, wet, less predictable climate, cities must learn to accommodate nature.

Freshkills Park on Staten Island went from the world's biggest garbage dump to a self-generating habitat largely through natural processes, proof that urban space can be returned to the bald eagles, ospreys, herons and grasshopper sparrows that long ago inhabited the terrain. And the roof of Chicago's City Hall has become a kind of aerial prairie, with 20,000 plants selected for their ability to withstand sunny, windy and arid conditions. The roof garden cools the building during summer and absorbs a huge amount of storm water.

If cities are to survive a hotter, wet, less predictable climate it is in their interests to strike an accommodation with nature. Urban centers like Louisville, Ky., denuded of tree canopy and foliage, can be 20 degrees Fahrenheit hotter than the lusher surrounding areas. Green spaces offer another form of much needed protection from the elements.

New York, which spent the 20th century remorselessly filling in and building over its tidal marshes, is waking up to the fact that wetlands are the surest defenses against storms and rising sea levels. Hunter's Point South Park in Queens now has a constructed tidal marsh; parts of Staten Island and Jamaica Bay, among others, are reverting to marshland. This signals a recognition that green infrastructure must be part of the plan to protect the city alongside hard engineering projects.

The priority for New York in the 21st century is to "restore and sustain a mosaic of habitats within the human-dominated landscape" in order to rehabilitate the wider ecosystem. Those are the words not of an eco-warrior, but the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in a 2020 report. And it is true for all cities battling the effects of climate change. Happily, from Dallas's Great Trinity Forest to New York's Freshkills Park, wildness is becoming a pronounced feature of modern cities.

Understood and appreciated, it can bring us deep pleasure. We should embrace it and learn to love the curious, unpredictable hybrid ecosystem that sprouts from the concrete.


KIDFUE

OPINION

The Pandemic May Be Over, but Soft Pants Are Forever

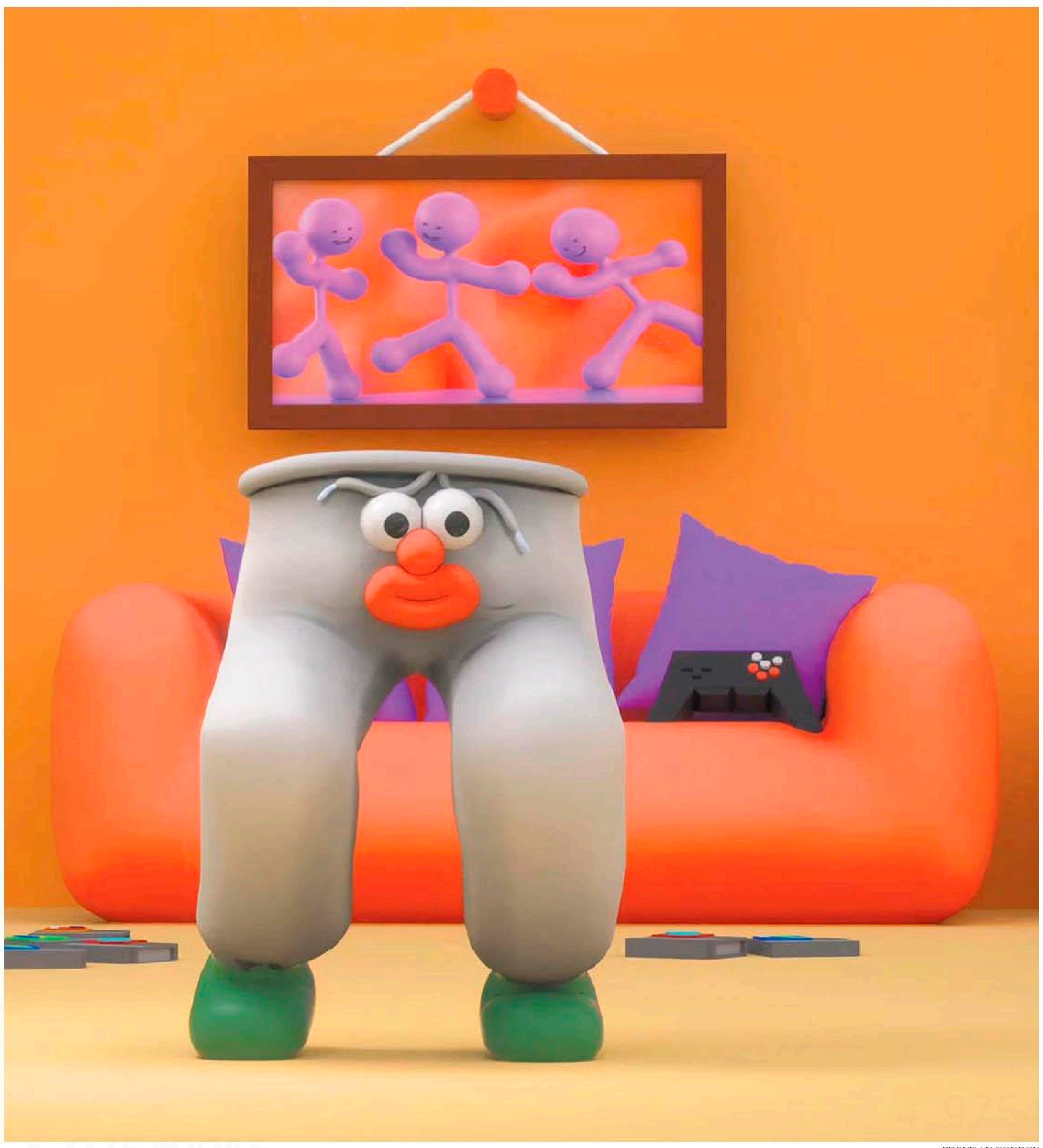
David Mack
A former reporter for BuzzFeed News.

LESS than three weeks into the March 2020 lockdowns in New York City, my boyfriend turned to me with a revelation he was having while in the snug living room that had become our co-working space, wine bar and prison chamber.

A finance lawyer who used to wear suits, he lately had found himself toiling in a series of baggy sweatpants and sweaters. (No judgment: I wore the same crusty, forest-green hoodie and gray sweats for over three days straight.) As we prepared to throw on some jeans to head to the grocery store, he told me he couldn't remember the last time he had put on a pair of "hard pants."

I shared his utterance on Twitter, the site on which I have wasted much of my life, and "hard pants" went viral. Dictionary.com even credited us with popularizing the term, although it's been around in some form since at least 2009. It was probably my greatest cultural contribution to the pandemic — it may prove to be the most influential piece of writing I produce in my career.

> Covid altered the fabric of our lives. Literally.



BRENDAN CONROY

Three years on, while I have mostly stopped wearing masks, my soft clothes remain. All the pieces I gravitate toward feel more . . . *casual*. If a set of pants has an elastic waistband, I'm sold. On an ideal day, you shouldn't be able to tell if I'm going to the club or to my couch. Think airport chic.

I don't think this makes me or my fellow softies slobs. We haven't given up, per se. We've merely let go of what was previously expected of us. If anything, it takes a certain grizzled hardness to emerge from the chaos of Covid and embrace softness. It feels liberating, both for my spirit and for my legs.

The divider between formal and informal spaces, between the professional and the unprofessional, has become as thin and faint as the line on a Covid test. I spent much of the last few years looking at my colleagues' bedrooms and seeing their toddlers crash Zoom calls — something that was once so unimaginable that when it happened in 2017 on the BBC it became international news.

We had no choice but to allow others into our private spaces. And as days turned to months turned to years, any pretense of formality went out the window. Please recall that someone once seemingly *flushed a toilet* during audio oral arguments for the Supreme Court — whose members, it should be pointed out, have been enjoying loosefitting robes for over two centuries.

The opportunity to re-evaluate longstanding social norms has been one of the few positive side effects of Covid. And saying goodbye to hard pants is just another way that the pandemic has altered the fabric — quite literally, in this instance — of our lives.

It's no secret that, for many of us, clothing preferences changed during the pandemic. While Americans' spending on apparel dropped 19 percent in 2020, sales of sweatpants rose 17 percent, according to NPD Group, a market research firm.

Indeed, now that we've emerged into a new era, as evidenced by the U.S. state of emergency designation for Covid expiring on Thursday, comfort still remains king.

"People want to dress up after the pandemic," Daniel Grieder, chief executive of the luxury apparel brand Hugo Boss, told The Business of Fashion in November. But, he added, "they don't want to wear something that is not comfortable anymore."

To meet this demand, Hugo Boss has focused on what Mr. Greider called "dressletic" fashion, "performance suiting" that's comfier than jeans and which he said has proved so popular it's routinely sold out in the brand's stores. Hugo Boss also revamped its visual identity to something more casual and, dare I say, grungier. A $228 black hoodie emblazoned with a white Boss logo has become Hugo Boss's best-selling item ever, according to Mr. Greider. Comfort sells — and evidently for a lot.

I came of age in an era when we were all supposed to be buying "going-out tops," as if our regular clothing would offend eyeballs after dark. This carried into my work life, too. Going into the office at BuzzFeed, I religiously wore a self-imposed uniform of Oxford button-downs and chinos or jeans. I couldn't say exactly why I felt the need to keep up a pretense of professionalism as I wrote stories about clouds that resembled male genitalia, but I suppose there was something nice about maintaining a distinction between who I was at work and who I was at home (where I talked about clouds resembling male genitalia without being compensated).

When, as the pandemic waned, I joined the huddled masses venturing back into Midtown a few days each week, my uniform changed. I wanted the colleagues who for years saw only my top half in video chats to marvel at how relaxed I look in resort wear or shorts. (Of course, this was until the surprise announcement last month that BuzzFeed News would shut down.)

For those who want to hold on to a degree of decorum, the newest thing is sweatpants that don't look like sweatpants. Rag & Bone sells a "Trompe L'oeil Cotton Jogger" that is designed to resemble a pair of jeans and retails for $225. Lululemon sells a fleece-lined pair with a pleat in the front for as much as $148.

This downfall of hard pants at work, while certainly accelerated by the pandemic, was brewing years before. The term "workleisure" appears to have first entered popular usage around the end of 2016, when the lifestyle website Well+Good claimed to have invented it in an article predicting trends.

It's not surprising we emerged from 2016 seeking comfort and the sensation of being swaddled. After that presidential election, you probably needed a hug. After 2020, you probably felt you needed a lobotomy.

Enter pants. Or rather, *exit* pants.

In many ways, I feel as if we are now demanding from our pants attributes we are also seeking in others and in ourselves. We want them to be forgiving and reassuring. We want them to nurture us. We want them to say: "I was there, too. I experienced it. I came out on the other side more carefree and less rigid. And I learned about the importance of ventilation in the process."

I'm Going to Spoil Your Favorite TV Show

Anna-Lisa Cohen
A professor of psychology at Yeshiva University whose work explores the ways in which goals and intentions influence behavior.

IN THIS divisive era, when there are so few things we all still agree on, one point of basic civility stands unchallenged: You don't mention the ending of a television show or movie if the person you're talking with hasn't seen it yet. It's just basic human decency. Premature plot revelations are so far out of bounds that their name alone stands as a warning: spoilers. (On that note and before we go any further: Spoilers ahead.)

In the past few weeks, a dramatic revelation on "Succession" reignited the debate over how long spoilers should be suppressed on social media — and whether having advance knowledge of a momentous plot development (in this case: Logan Roy dies) ruins our enjoyment of a story. Recently, my colleagues and I conducted research to address this very question.

Spoiler alert: It doesn't.

In a study published in Applied Cognitive Psychology, my co-authors and I had people watch a suspenseful 30-minute TV episode directed by Alfred Hitchcock titled "Bang! You're Dead." Our purpose was to determine the extent to which knowing the outcome of a dramatic scenario would affect a viewer's ability to be drawn in by it. We showed our participants this short episode, in which a young boy finds a loaded gun and mistakes it for a toy. The boy grabs it and walks around his small town pointing it and shooting at people yelling "Bang! You're dead!" oblivious to the fact that there is a bullet in the chamber.

We told participants — a sample of undergraduate students — to raise their hand every time any character said the word "gun." In the control group, participants knew nothing about how the story would end. As the suspense mounted midway through the show, they were so immersed in the events onscreen that they forgot all about their assignment.

In a different group, we told participants how the program would end. We predicted that knowing the ending would lower their engagement — and allow them to better remember to respond to the word "gun."

We were wrong.

At the same point in the show, participants neglected their assignment in a similar manner as those in the control group. In other words, they were just as immersed even though they knew the outcome. In follow-up questionnaires, they also reported the same levels of engagement and enjoyment as those who didn't know the ending.

The truth is we are just as likely to get caught up in a story even when we know what is coming — perhaps because more significant factors determine our enjoyment of narratives rather than simply waiting to learn or guess their resolution. Humans are hard-wired not just to absorb facts but also to lose themselves in stories and attune themselves to the characters and plots unfolding on the screen.

Consider the 2019 movie "Parasite." Everyone watching it knows it's fictional, but we nonetheless feel our pulse start to race as the man hiding in the basement suddenly emerges with a knife. In an effort to self-soothe, we might try to remind ourselves that it's only a movie, but it's no use. We are terrified.

In 1993, the psychology professor Richard Gerrig put a name to this common experience of being completely pulled away from the present and immersed in the alternate world of a fictional story. He called it "narrative transportation," because it feels as if we have been transported into the alternate world.

One of the defining characteristics of narrative transportation is that we become so immersed that our attitudes and intentions change to reflect those of the story. This explains why we cry when a beloved protagonist dies or scream in terror as an ax-wielding psychopath closes in on his victim. As it turns out, our sense of narrative transportation has very little to do with whether we know how the story is going to end.

> Everyone gets mad about spoilers, but the truth is it's hard to ruin a good story.

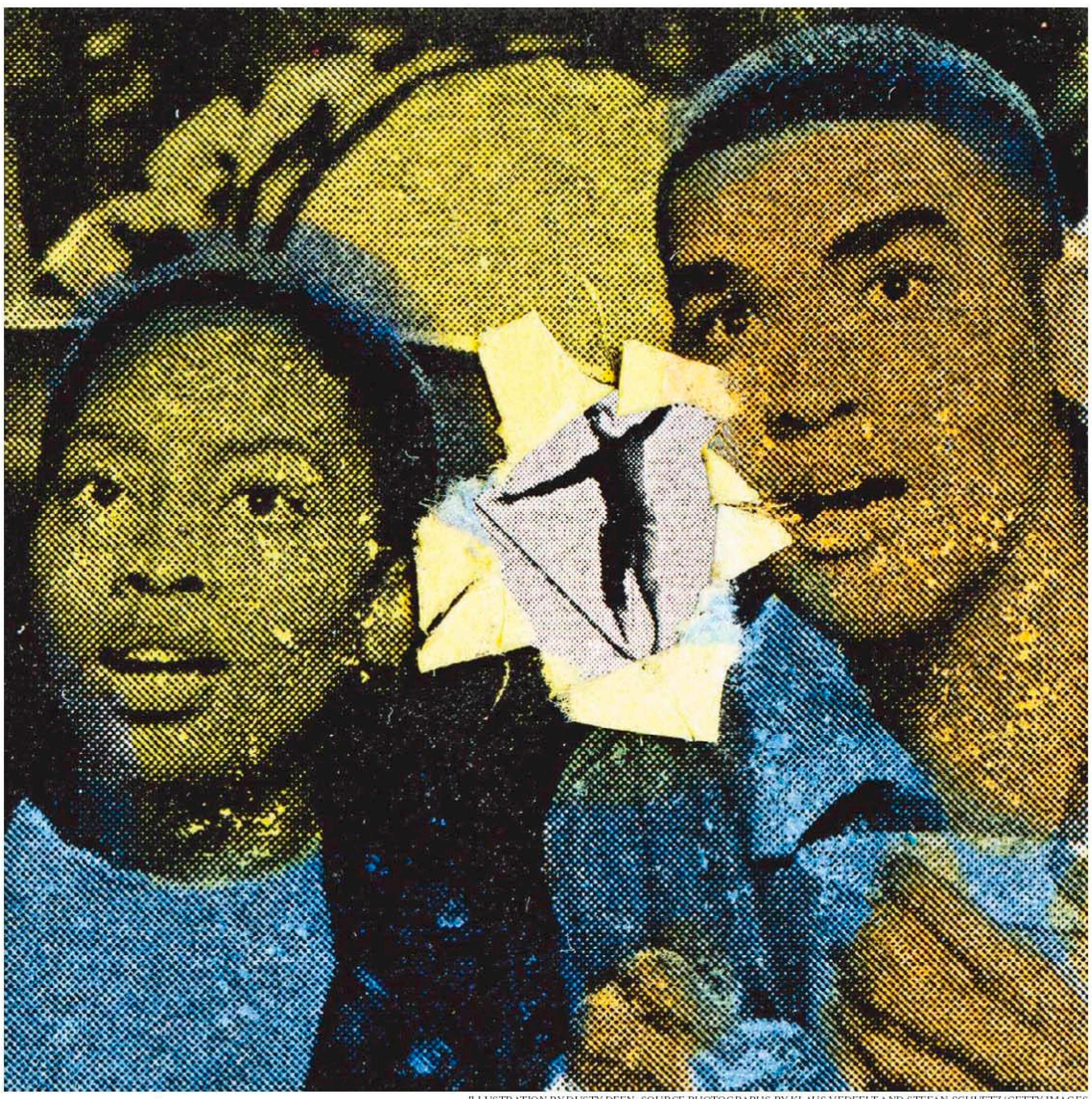


ILLUSTRATION BY DUSTY DEEN; SOURCE PHOTOGRAPHS BY KLAUS VEDFELT AND STEFAN SCHUETZ/GETTY IMAGES

The opening sequence of another thriller, "Cliffhanger," directed by Renny Harlin and starring Sylvester Stallone, is arguably one of the most gut-wrenching four minutes in film. Mr. Stallone plays a mountain ranger who helps a couple who are stranded on a mountain peak in the Colorado Rockies. The director sets up a suspenseful scene in which a female character, played by Michelle Joyner, is crossing a crevice thousands of feet above the ground when her harness breaks. For several agonizing seconds, while she dangles precariously, Ms. Joyner's hand begins to slip out of Mr. Stallone's. The camera focuses tightly on her face. Then she falls. I have used this sequence in my classes on many occasions to illustrate the power of film, but I always give students warning before playing the clip.

In a 2015 study, the cognitive psychologist Matt Bezdek and colleagues scanned participants' brains using functional magnetic resonance imaging while they watched the opening scene of "Cliffhanger," as well as clips of a number of other highly suspenseful films. The clips were presented in the center of the screen while continuously flashing checkerboards appeared in the periphery.

When the clips reached their most suspenseful moments, participants' attention was focused on the center of the screen like a spotlight, suppressing attention to the periphery, so that they weren't aware of the flashing checkerboards. In moments of low suspense, the spotlight of attention broadened, and participants were more likely to notice the checkerboards. This study provided the first neural evidence that suspense narrows attentional focus — and it helped explain why the participants in our Hitchcock study forgot their task.

If we feel empathy and identify with characters, we become mentally attuned to the goals and intentions of those characters. Therefore, if a protagonist has a goal to find his or her child to prevent a death (as happens in the case of the Hitchcock story), it becomes our goal, too.

So, if watching a Hitchcock story makes us feel that we are living in that story, then knowing the ending doesn't affect us, because the characters in the story don't know the ending and, for that moment, we have hitched our mental state to theirs.

So don't worry if someone "spoiled" the latest episode of "Succession" for you. The research suggests you will still enjoy it, even if you decide to watch it for a second time.

OPINION

COLUMNIST | ZEYNEP TUFEKCI

The Viral Threat That Hasn't Gone Away



KATHLEEN FLYNN/REUTERS, VIA REDUX

In December 2014, two monkeys in outdoor cages at the Tulane National Primate Research Center, about 40 miles north of New Orleans, became ill with Burkholderia pseudomallei, a deadly bacteria in the federal government's highest risk category, reserved for pathogens like smallpox, anthrax and Ebola. This is the category for which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention sees "significant potential for mass casualties or severe effects."

A short drive from the cages, there was a lab working with the pathogen, which at the time had never been found naturally in the continental United States.

Some of the staff members who worked with the monkeys were not told of the infections for nearly a month after the pathogen was suspected and 10 days after it was confirmed.

In March 2015, the Tulane center's director, Andrew Lackner, claimed that "various Burkholderia species have been present in domestic animals in Louisiana since at least 2004, long before any scientific study of the organism began" at the center.

Lackner also dismissed media reports of a possible lab leak as a "predictable news cycle" and said there was "no known threat to public health."

By then, though, the C.D.C. had already determined that the bacteria in the monkeys was the exact strain studied in the center's lab.

An Agriculture Department report later documented a history of lax practices at the laboratory as well as problems with its wastewater treatment, which may have been how the pathogen had leaked.

Much of this would not have been known if not for years of dogged reporting by Alison Young, a former investigative reporter for USA Today and a professor at the Missouri School of Journalism.

In her new book, "Pandora's Gamble," Young lays out the shocking extent of lax laboratory standards and procedures, and lack of accountability and transparency, in the United States and around the world.

Young is a rare breed, an investigative journalist who has covered the C.D.C. and biosafety issues since at least 2006, when she worked for The Atlanta Journal-Constitution, long before the Covid pandemic.

Her book is full of calmly reported but jaw-dropping details of incident after incident in which research labs, more interested in public relations than public safety, have been opaque or even misleading about safety failures and laboratory-acquired infections. She reveals lab accidents that have gone unreported or details that have not been publicly known at the Army's biolab at Fort Detrick in Maryland, at the C.D.C., at a San Francisco veterans medical center and elsewhere.

In December 2019, a research trainee's breathing tube delivering safe, filtered air became disconnected while she was working at the University of Wisconsin with ferrets — whose upper respiratory tract resembles that of humans — potentially exposing her to the deadly bird flu virus H5N1. The strain had been genetically modified so that it could spread through airborne transmission among mammals; researchers were trying to determine if that was possible.

Such genetic modification, called gain of function research, had been allowed to resume only earlier that year after a ban of almost five years. The ban followed a public outcry over news in 2011 that researchers in Wisconsin and the Netherlands had manipulated the bird flu virus to be transmitted through the air to ferrets — and thus, potentially, among humans. H5N1 doesn't normally spread among people easily, a big relief since the virus has a known human fatality rate of about 50 percent.

As Young reports, even though university officials were required to immediately report that the researcher had breathed room air, they waited two months to alert the Office of Science Policy of the National Institutes of Health, which oversees U.S. research with genetically engineered pathogens, and almost two months to tell the university's own biosafety committee. The university on its own decided to end the trainee's quarantine without telling state and local public health officials.

A representative of the university later defended its lack of openness to Young by telling her that "most people are also not equipped to appropriately evaluate the risk." The N.I.H. told Young that university officials did not think they needed to report the incident because they felt there was "no reasonable risk of virus exposure," presumably because the hose was disconnected only briefly from the source of purified air.

Yet, during the Covid pandemic, we learned that airborne transmission can occur in even a few seconds and even at a distance.

The trainee researcher turned out not to have been infected. But "trust us" is not the proper response to a case in which the scientist could have been infected and spread the virus, even without obvious symptoms.

Lax lab safety procedures are a global problem. A Washington Post investigation reported recently that in the summer of 2019, hundreds of people in Lanzhou, China, got sick after thousands of people were exposed to bacteria that can cause brucellosis, after a government-run biomedical complex failed to properly disinfect its waste. A scientific paper published in November called it "possibly the largest laboratory accident in the history of infectious diseases."

And yet, it took a month for the authorities in China to discover and fix the problem and four months before they informed the public.

The failure to detect in real time is a too-common feature of many lab accidents and biosafety mishaps. In 2012, in its first published report of its kind, the C.D.C. reported 11 laboratory-acquired infections in laboratories over six years. Not a single one was reported or realized unless a lab worker was *later* discovered to have been infected.

Lab safety failures have been a continual danger, with too little being done.

Sometimes, researchers don't even know about a dangerous pathogen in their lab. The Marburg virus, similar to Ebola, is named not after any place where it had been endemic but after the German city where the first known outbreak occurred, in 1967. Lab workers had handled monkey tissue infected with the then-unknown virus. Seven people died and 32 were infected.

In 2003 and 2004, SARS leaked from labs in China, Singapore and Taiwan so many times after its initial outbreak, which had been contained, that the World Health Organization said that if it ever came back, it would most likely be because of a lab mishap.

When researchers conceal problems, it can be because they are avoiding embarrassment and hope for the best.

In 2003, a SARS researcher in a top biosafety lab in Taiwan, in a hurry to go on a trip, got infected when he rushed to clean a spill. He traveled anyway and then became very ill. Instead of informing the authorities, he self-quarantined. His father said the man "wanted to die at home" rather than bring shame to his lab and his country. The incident came to light only after the desperate father threatened to kill himself unless his son sought medical help.

In 2022, a lab worker conducting research on the new coronavirus in Taiwan exposed 110 people to Covid after she got infected when she removed her mask improperly — the blunder wasn't discovered until later, when she tested positive. Back in 2003 her supervisor had been infected with SARS in a lab. Science magazine noted then that this was "a grim reminder, experts say, that the very researchers fighting SARS could unleash its next global outbreak."

Of course, a large majority of lab research happens without such mishaps. And scientific research is how we study dangerous pathogens. And obviously, we've had outbreaks and pandemics even before we got the ability to work with pathogens in labs.

But the abilities scientists have developed in the past few decades have increased the threat. In 2012, when some scientists published a paper titled "Reconstruction of the 1918 Influenza Virus: Unexpected Rewards From the Past," about a strain of influenza that had killed tens of millions around the world, other scientists argued that any knowledge gained wasn't worth the risk or could be obtained more safely.

Biosafety also involves field research and animals at the labs. Scientists studying animals in the wild can carry back pathogens to their labs and the densely populated areas where they may be situated. A scientist at the Wuhan C.D.C., a few hundred yards from the market where the first known big outbreak of the Covid pandemic was detected in December 2019, was filmed in a video released that month about his field research on bats. The video showed him conducting fieldwork without full protective gear, even though he noted in the video that "it is while discovering new viruses that we are most at risk of infection."

And if scientists bring the animals themselves back to the labs, there can be even more danger. Scientists at the Wuhan Institute of Virology reportedly kept colonies of live bats to study the virus they carry. Those colonies could be a source of cross infection of people.

Cities are a particular danger. Spillovers, when a novel animal virus infects a human, are common; however, pandemics are rare. New viruses can't trigger a pandemic unless they also evolve to spread effectively from one human to another. Rural communities do not provide the same density and population to facilitate that as cities do. (That's also why urban wet markets are dangerous.)

Yet, a new global biosafety report shows that 75 percent of the labs with the highest-level safety, BSL-4, reserved for the most dangerous pathogens, and 80 percent of BSL-3+ labs, where viruses like SARS could be experimented on, are in cities — places with more than 50,000 people living within 2.5 miles of the lab.

A model for the sort of global collaboration in the interest of safety is commercial aviation, which relies on international cooperation, transparency and a culture of accountability, including investigations of accidents that don't seek to assign blame. Instead of hiding a mishap, air authorities and airlines are encouraged to come forward with the understanding that it will lead to improvements, not finger-pointing and blame. It's clearly not perfect — as the two Boeing 737 Max crashes demonstrated — but it does work impressively well.

As Young's remarkable book extensively documents, scientists are prone to the human and institutional instinct to deny problems and hope for the best. Startling new research can get them grants and get them published — an important incentive for many scientists.

Research involving experiments with pandemic-potential pathogens should have very strict requirements for merit, conduct and accountability, which should be externally reviewed in a transparent manner so that the public can be assured the utmost care has been taken.

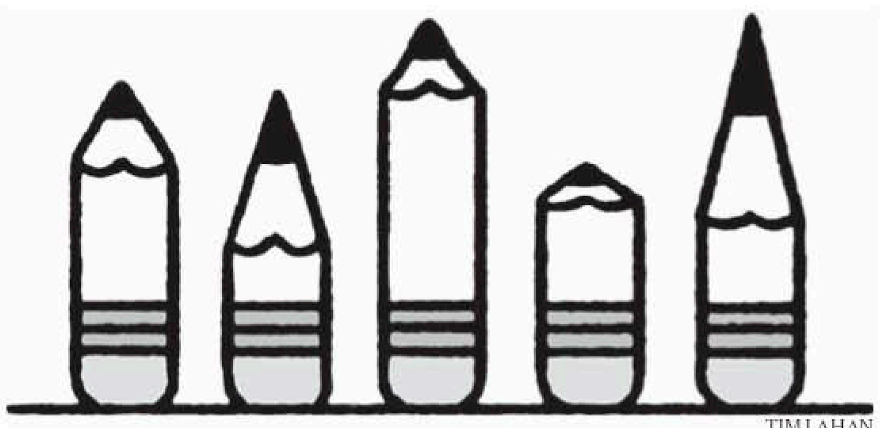
Regulations can require most risky research to be conducted outside of cities and with mandatory quarantines of researchers — not just after incidents are noticed, but also after every potentially highly dangerous experiment.

When a researcher at the University of Wisconsin pricked a finger with a needle containing an engineered H5N1 bird flu strain in 2013, the N.I.H., Young writes, was alarmed to learn that the university had no dedicated quarantine facilities despite previous assurances to the contrary. It let the researcher wait it out at home while monitoring symptoms. To defend all this, university officials said "uncomfortable and confining" quarantine quarters, like hospital isolation rooms that minimize airborne spread, might make researchers hide their exposures. But the possibility of such reluctance is a reason for mandatory quarantine for all dangerous research.

There should also be uniform standards for biosafety for research that isn't necessarily going to spark a pandemic but nevertheless poses a threat to the immediate environs.

One of the most important measures could be for top scientific journals to set high biosafety standards for what type of research they are willing to publish — similar to how research violating basic human rights would not be publishable. Instead of one country's practices being singled out, standards should be set for all.

Young's book raises a much-needed alarm about the dangers of ignoring the need to do things right. The stakes are too high.



TIM LAHAN

LETTERS

SATs and Measuring Merit

Readers discuss a column by Ross Douthat about colleges no longer requiring SAT scores.

TO THE EDITOR:

Re "Can College Meritocracy Survive?," by Ross Douthat (column, April 30):

Good riddance to the SAT. It is a simplistic yardstick of performance — and tests a certain type of intelligence, whereas there are many. Further, it exacerbates the unfairness of higher education in the United States.

Those with means avail themselves of small armies of tutors and expensive prep courses, while those born into modest circumstances are on their own — a microcosm of American society.

Though even as the SAT fades in importance, we must recognize that its diminishment alone does not render the college admissions process fair — in fact, it is obscene in its bias. If we want a truly meritocratic system, we would do away with preferential admission for legacy applicants and those with parents who are generous donors.

I went to a private school in Manhattan. By and large, those whose parents had legacy status, connections and/or gave large donations received acceptance letters from Ivy League schools. Those who lacked these resources — acquired by birth and not merit — were left to pick up the scraps thrown from the table. Meritocracy is merely a myth.

DANIEL DOLGICER
NEW YORK

TO THE EDITOR:

Ross Douthat's concept of meritocracy misses the forest for the trees. The number of spots at Ivy League-type schools is artificially limited; there will always be meritorious students outside the elite bubble. Merit is determined by putting your education to good use after finishing college, not by the arbitrary number your school was assigned by some rankings conglomerate.

I attended a respectable but not "elite" school in Ohio for my bachelor's degree. I still got an amazing education and was surrounded by incredible classmates. My experience in industry and graduate school is that people from nonelite schools frequently compete with or outperform peers from pedigreed schools. Rankings simply cannot accurately describe the quality and applicability of the instruction students receive in college.

So let's agree as a society to drop the obsession with college rankings and admission to brand-name schools. Instead, we should focus our collective attention on increasing funding for universities across the board. Invest in *everyone's* education. This is the path to a true meritocracy.

QUINN WINTERS, MUNICH
The writer is a graduate student at Technical University of Munich.

TO THE EDITOR:

While fretting over the demise of standardized tests in college admissions, Ross Douthat overlooks the real reason that admissions professionals have soured on their use: Standardized tests are poor predictors of actual performance in college.

Admissions work is more nuanced in the 21st century because professionals have read the data showing that unquantifiable factors like "grit" and "resilience" are better predictors of success in college than an ACT score. They know not to discount a student from an underfunded high school with poor test scores but lots of "A" grades. That student has shown the desire and discipline for academic work.

If you want a meritocracy, then the tests no longer fit the admissions task (and probably never did). Let 'em go the way of blue books.

JIM BROWN
VICTORIA BROWN
HAVERTOWN, PA.
The writers are retired college professors.

TO THE EDITOR:

I could not agree more with Ross Douthat's analysis.

I came from an immigrant working-class Italian family, so no exposure to the kinds of books, discussions, etc. of my upper-class competitors. I was class valedictorian at a public high school in a suburban Boston town that was very working class.

Had I not done well on the SATs, I doubt that I would have gotten accepted to Barnard, Jackson (Tufts), Wellesley or Brandeis.

I think Mr. Douthat is exactly right that it's not the SATs that work against applicants who come from the middle or lower classes but the extracurriculars, the essays, the "right demeanor" in the interview. (I was wholly surprised by being asked in two of my interviews about whether I would be traveling in Europe during my summer before freshman year. How about a *job?*)

In the end, I became a highly successful partner for almost 20 years in a large Washington, D.C., law firm.

MARILYN DORIA
MADISON, CONN.

TO THE EDITOR:

Michael Sandel's book "The Tyranny of Merit: What's Become of the Common Good" explains that meritocracy is not as worth preserving as Ross Douthat claims.

As a secondary school English teacher and school administrator for over 25 years, I "get" why standardized testing often misrepresents a student's true ability and potential.

Many talented students, both from affluent and poor backgrounds, do poorly on time-stressed standardized tests — though those from affluent families have the financial means to hire tutors to help them practice and improve.

Many American teens can't or don't go on to higher education, and feel unprepared to pursue college or a career (as high as 75 percent according to one survey). And of the roughly 60 percent who do go to college, only about 60 percent graduate in six years.

The focus shouldn't be on elite universities and the merit of college admissions, but on why so many American teens don't or can't go on to higher education, or can't complete a degree. Part of this problem is our culture's focus on a college degree as necessary for a middle-class life.

Meritocracy and SATs aren't the issue. Why our high schools so poorly prepare teens for productive lives is what we should be worrying about as a nation.

JAMES BERKMAN
PLYMOUTH, VT.

TO THE EDITOR:

A question that's left out of Ross Douthat's column on meritocracy is whether or not we should value Ivy League degrees more than others. Are Ivy grads valued because they have more skills, or because when they were 18 they were able to get into a fancy school?

The lazy old-boys network continues to recruit from a narrow pool for important jobs in a variety of fields is more to blame than the college admissions process.

DAVE CASE
HOOD RIVER, ORE.
The writer is a high school teacher.

12 Americans On Labor Unions

Patrick Healy, Margie Omero and Adrian J. Rivera
Mr. Healy is the deputy Opinion editor. Ms. Omero is a pollster. Mr. Rivera is an editorial assistant in Opinion.

WHAT divides and unites us as a country? It's a familiar, almost stale question but one that's complicated and crucial to explore for a society and democracy as interdependent as ours. For our latest Times Opinion focus group, we decided to try something provocative: Gather a mix of Democrats, Republicans and independents who all had one unifying aspect — their membership in labor unions, which value cohesion and collective action.

Do they feel some sense of solidarity with one another, despite their differences? What does solidarity mean to them? What does "working class" mean? "Middle class"? What's the value of a strike in pursuance of a contract? And what happens to collective action when partisan politics enter the picture? There were fascinating moments in the conversation when the Republicans and Democrats were in close agreement, only to be pulled apart when specific leaders (starting with Donald Trump and President Biden) were mentioned. The power of personalities to tear at shared values was on vivid display.

"I think we've all been criticizing politicians and maybe some problems with unions," said Kevin, a teacher. "I think the adversary is the corporation or the business and the stockholders and what commitment they have to them and maximizing their profit. So that's where we can come together and join, Democrats and Republicans." After the participants were asked how closely they'd been following the indictment of Mr. Trump, John, a customer service representative, said, "I'm glad you saved politics till the end, because, oh, boy."

PARTICIPANTS

Emily 33, N.J., white, Dem., teacher	**Vanessa** 38, Ill., Latina, ind., train operator	**John** 58, Texas, Black, Dem., customer service	**Trudi** 59, Wash., white, Rep., custodian	**Sheryl** 43, Mich., Black, ind., material handler	**Maria** 48, N.Y., white, Rep., nurse
Kevin 60, Pa., white, ind., teacher	**Suzi** 64, Hawaii, Pacific Islander, Dem., flight attendant	**Joe** 66, N.Y., white, Rep., electrician	**Jose** 56, Ill., Latino, Dem., forklift operator	**Andrew** 45, Mo., white, Rep., grocery clerk	**Francesco** 42, Mass., white, Dem., manufacturing

What does the phrase 'working class' mean to you?


People who don't have offshore accounts.
— Suzi


I think of clocking in and clocking out of a job, you know?
— Andrew


Someone who's not necessarily struggling but is always on their toes.
— Maria


People who rely on their paycheck just to get by.
— Kevin

In a single word or phrase, describe your biggest concern about America these days.

Maria: Divided.
Sheryl: Gun violence.
Francesco: Health care.
Vanessa: The world itself and everything that's happening in it, especially the crimes.
Suzi: Division.
Emily: Safety.
Andrew: Terrorism.
Jose: Crime.
John: Homelessness.
Trudi: The economy.
Joe: Inflation.
Kevin: Dishonesty and denial.
Emily: Our children being able to go to school safely. People being able to safely get the reproductive care they need.
Kevin: Just from fake news to people saying things — all these wild, discrepant "facts."
Maria: We're so far right or so far left that there's no chance for the middle people to get a word in. We don't trust each other anymore. I feel the media has a lot to do with that, whether it's race or politics.
Moderator: Do you think America's best days are ahead of us, behind us or happening now?
Jose: I believe in looking forward, not living in the past. You got to pray for better things and look on the bright side.
Francesco: We go through cycles of boom and bust, of growth and then recession. In maybe two to three years, we'll be fine.
Sheryl: I want to be optimistic, but you have to live for right now. Right now is pretty bleak.
Moderator: Why do these days feel bleak?
Sheryl: Gun violence is so out of control. You can't go to church. You can't go to the grocery store. You can't send your kids to school. You can't go to shows. It's just random shootings for no reason.
Vanessa: I live in Chicago. When I was younger, I was able to play outside. Now kids are home on tablets or computers, playing video games. There's really no interaction with people, which has a big effect on mental health. Like Sheryl said, we're not safe. I'm a train operator. I've gotten attacked plenty of times on the train. We're just not safe anymore.
John: I'm just like Vanessa — you're not safe anywhere you go. I try to think of those days behind us, and I wish it could be that way now.
Joe: I'm in New York City. I think the best days are long behind. People get thrown in front of subway trains. They arrest the guy, and he stays in the police station for an hour, and he's released. Two days later, he's doing the same thing again. Nowadays, people don't want any rules.
Andrew: I feel like our leadership is not very strong right now, but I have to disagree a little bit. I feel very safe taking my electric bike to the movie theater or the library.
Emily: I don't remember worrying as a child as much. Maybe I notice a lot more now, of my surroundings, racial tensions and all that.
Moderator: Would folks in this group consider themselves working class? Do you have feelings about that phrase?
Trudi: I am working class. I don't find it offensive. I work to live.
Sheryl: I agree with Trudi. I work to survive, to live, to pay my bills, to travel and have a little nest egg aside. But yeah, I am working class. There is no middle class anymore. When I was growing up, I could say I was middle class, but that was my parents' income. Now I'm working class, for sure.
Emily: I feel like growing up, we were definitely middle class. My mom worked part time, but she didn't have to work. Now I have to work. My husband has to work. We both have second jobs. And yeah, we can afford a vacation here and there, but we both have to work. There's no choice.
Vanessa: We have good jobs now, but even having a good job, you struggle now. You save a little bit, and then, bam, the food goes up. The things that you spend the most money on are the things that you need to survive.
John: I'm in struggle mode, so there's a lot of discussion of needs versus wants in our household. I'm not trying to keep up with the Joneses, but I work to try to make my kids have the things that they need. Because it's hard enough just seeing what we're going through, and so I didn't want to put that on them. We try to make sure that we sacrifice to make sure that they have what they need.
Moderator: Everybody here told the recruiters that they're part of a union. Tell me about what made you decide to join a union.
Andrew: I work for a large grocery store chain. They've been pretty fair to me. They gave us Covid relief pay, and I think our union has been pretty decent.
Emily: I teach special education in New Jersey. It's not an option to join the union. You have to. As far as what they're fighting for, it's contract negotiations, so they're trying, right now unsuccessfully, to increase our wages.
Vanessa: I work for a big union here in Chicago. It's very expensive. You pay, like, $80 a month. They absolutely do nothing. It is ridiculous. We didn't get Covid pay throughout the pandemic. I think it's more politics, and every time we reach out to them to get help, they make you feel like they're doing you a favor.
Trudi: I joined the union because of a labor dispute. I worked hours, and they refused to pay me for them. I had to file my own grievance. And after that, I became very involved in my local because I certainly didn't want anyone else to go through what I had gone through. I like to be able to help people, and one of the things we can help them with is through collective bargaining and trying to get them a living wage.
Jose: I recently departed my company because of work injury, and the union really didn't stick up for me. I mean, I came back to work, and they offered me a position where I wouldn't be standing on my feet and I'd sit down. And I'm like, "OK, I'll go back to work." And when I turned around and showed up, they're like, "Oh, no, go back to your old department." I was paying my dues, doing everything right. And I would constantly tell them, like, "Hey, I can't be doing this job. My knee is shot. Is there another position that I can do?" In my opinion, the union I work for didn't stand behind its employees.
Moderator: How important would you say being a union member is to your own identity about yourself as a worker?
Kevin: I'm a special ed teacher and a child advocate. I appreciate somebody looking out for my interests. I don't think unions always look out for students or children. Their job is to look out for us, and that's what they're committed to doing. I think a workers' union has a single interest: to raise the pay and keep the place safe. That makes more sense. Professional unions seem a little selfish to me. My daughter would always want me to say, "Put the kids first, not put myself first. I'll be taken care of." But I'm glad I am in a union position. I wouldn't have had the wage increases that I've had, probably.
Suzi: I work for a major airline, and you have to be in the union. Otherwise, you're out sailing along by yourself in the middle of the ocean, completely defenseless. But being in a union is not really a big part of my identity.
Andrew: I wouldn't say I'm super-involved with my union. I just go in there, I do my job, and that's about it.
Joe: I still am in contact with a lot of people that are working, and I'll tell you the truth — they carry union cards, they pay dues, but I don't know anybody that's pro-union anymore. If you work for a boss that goes by the contract, unions are good. If you have a problem or you have a boss that doesn't go by the contract, you find out who's pro-union and who's not because that's when you find out they're really not interested in helping you.
Moderator: Was anyone in this group part of an organizing effort?
Maria: I'm a nurse, and my husband and I both work in the same hospital. He's a P.A. And the nurses were unionized from when we were hired, but the P.A.s didn't have a union, and they were very much mistreated. They didn't get extra pay for preceptor, or they were easily floated to other places where they didn't know the practice. They didn't get raises very often. The union just came in. We work in New York City, and they organized the P.A.s. And our management was very much against it. But the organizing worked, and they all got raises. Their staffing is increased. They're not mandated to do overtime, and they're able to pick schedules now.
Moderator: What kind of raise did your husband get?
Maria: Prior to the union, P.A.s hadn't gotten a raise for five years. With the nurses striking and getting 8 percent, they got 8 percent.
John: That's real good.
Maria: Yeah, it was great.

How do folks feel about strikes?

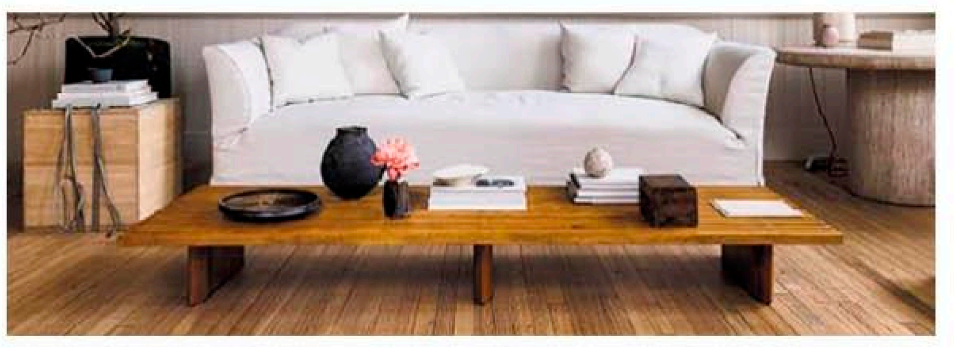
Kevin: As a teacher, I don't think really we should strike, but I know we've had success doing it when school unions have. We're there for the students. And if a strike goes on for a month or something, students are out of school. I feel like there's better opportunities to negotiate, though it's been successful, I'm glad to say. I've not been involved in a strike like that or had to be.
Andrew: We did go on strike about 15, 20 years ago. I remember sitting outside in our cars, and I think that it can evoke change. We got more money for baggers, clerks. Good things happen.
Moderator: How many of you have been on strike at some point over your careers? [*Three people raise a hand.*]
Jose: If it's to get a pay raise and better benefits, yeah, it's to your benefit to go on strike.
Moderator: How do you see politics related to some of these labor issues, whether it's elected officials who are trying to help unions or trying to stop the expansion of unions?
Joe: My personal belief is that unions should stay out of politics and stick to being unions. But basically, that's what they've become now. They've become arms of political parties more than they're worried about the working people themselves. That's a shame.
Maria: I agree with Joe. Unions should stay out of politics. I know with my union, a lot of times when there's an election, they kind of favor a political official for whatever reason. But I don't really think that we should be backing up politicians.
Vanessa: Well, you know, I agree. I don't think that unions should be mixed with politics. But sadly, that's how it is here. Our union endorses these politicians that they feel are going to help. But I just feel like the union, for me, in my experience, in the 10 years that I've been working, they don't help.

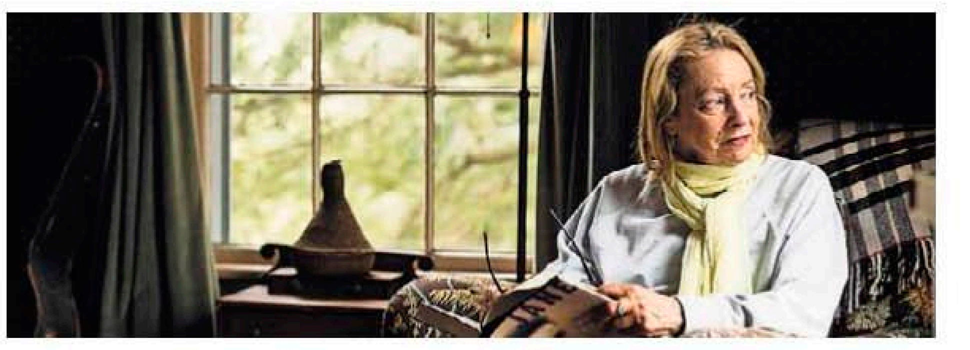
Do you feel solidarity with union members who aren't the same as you politically?

Trudi: I'm a proud Republican that lives in a Democratic state. I don't normally know the political affiliation of the people that I work with. I am a K-12 public education custodian at a local high school of about 1,500 students. I'm also our local chapter president for our union. I'm trying to have discussions with legislators on a regular basis to tell them how important it is to fully fund education. Covid was tough on education. I'm a big believer in unions. Politics and religion — we don't talk about that at school or work. Normally, everyone is individual, and everybody has a right to their opinion. And if they want to bring it forward, we can agree to disagree. Let's try and stay focused on the job and do it.
Sheryl: We don't too much discuss what your affiliation is in politics, either. At union meetings, they get pretty heated, but that's one topic we don't bring up. There's a lot of division in my place where I work, and the morale is awful. But politics don't come up a lot.
Andrew: I'm a Republican, and my entire family is, but I think all of us can find some common ground to agree on. I think everybody can find something that they share the same ground on.
Moderator: There are a lot of stereotypes that union members are largely Democrats who vote for Democratic politicians.
Kevin: I think we've all been criticizing politicians and maybe some problems with unions. I think the adversary is the corporation or the business and the stockholders and what commitment they have to them and maximizing their profit. So that's where we can come together and join, Democrats and Republicans. The corporations are the ones with all the money. And if they couldn't give it up a little bit for their employees, then I think we should join together to fight for that.
Maria: As union members, we're all fighting for the same thing. We want a safe practice for our patients. We want fair wages so we could take care of our families. As humans, we want the same things. So I think we all stand in solidarity not just because of our unions but as humans trying to do a good thing.

8 HOW TO
A guide to composing the perfectly styled coffee table.

6 'SUCCESSION' SITES
It's possible for you, too, to live like Kendall and Roman.





9 AT HOME WITH
Summers in Connecticut with the Bernstein family.

10 ON LOCATION
Privacy is serious business, so they created a ha-ha.

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The New York Times

SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023

N

'Mommunes': Single Mothers Join Forces



AGNES LOPEZ FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Using the age-old power of sisterhood to split the household bills and raise their children together.

By DEBRA KAMIN

First, Kristin Batykefer lost her marketing job when there was a management change. Then her marriage fell apart, and she suddenly found herself with no income and nowhere to go.

To help her get back on her feet last year, two family friends invited Ms. Batykefer and her daughter, who is now 4, to stay in their four-bedroom home near Jacksonville, Fla. Then Ms. Batykefer's best friend, Tessa Gilder, also went through a divorce and came to stay in the house, bringing along her two children, now ages 5 and 1.

Almost overnight, they had organically formed a commune for single mothers: a "mommune."

All over the world, women are joining forces under one roof, sharing the load of child care and household bills through the age-old power of sisterhood. Ms. Batykefer, 32, who had chronicled her family's mobile life living in a renovated Air Force bus on social media when she was married, spread the word about her new single life living with four adults and three children.

When she came down with a headache, sore throat and body aches that knocked her flat, the other women in her house cooked her homemade soup and cookies and shepherded the children to a nearby park so she could rest. "Support system like no other," Ms. Batykefer wrote on a TikTok post that has been viewed more than one million times. "Shoulda moved into a mommune a long time ago."

The living arrangement isn't novel —

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12



LEIGH VOGEL FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Mothers have been house-sharing for centuries, particularly in nonwhite communities, but the pandemic put a new spotlight on the make-your-own-family structure. At top is a dance party at a "mommune" near Jacksonville, Fla. Above, Herrin Hopper, second from left, and Holly Harper, center, are single mothers who bought a home in a Washington suburb in 2020 and created a mommune with two other women.

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Calculator Square Footage

Where $1,500 in Rent Feels Roomiest

Right now, a household earning the national median income of $70,784 a year can afford about $1,775 in monthly rent without becoming "rent burdened" (meaning that 30 percent of income is needed to cover rent). But of course, not every U.S. rental market is the same. A new study by RentCafe gives renters some guidance on which of the country's 100 largest metro areas offer the most space for the money.

Using the nice round number of $1,500 a month as a base — just under that $1,775 threshold — researchers found that cities in the Midwest and the South easily outstrip their coastal counterparts in bang-for-buck economy.

For New Yorkers or anyone living in a large coastal city, $1,500 in rent seems almost impossibly low, and the study bears that out. In Manhattan, it rents just 243 square feet — the least space among the 100 biggest metros. In Brooklyn it rents 342 square feet, and in Queens, 393. (For the purpose of the study, Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens were treated as individual markets.) But you'd be hard pressed to find anything that cheap in the city. A recent search of Zillow turned up 183 New York City apartments available for $1,500 or less — not a lot for a city of 3.2 million households.

For ample elbow room, head to the center of the country. In Wichita, Kan., $1,500 a month gets you 1,463 square feet, the most for the money. Toledo, Ohio, and Tulsa, Okla., are next, offering slightly less space for the dollar.

Interestingly, while the total square footage of the most expensive area, Manhattan, was roughly one-sixth that of the least expensive, Wichita, no single metro was shown to have much larger or smaller apartments overall. On average, apartments across the country measured within a few hundred feet, even in the most and least expensive places, as shown on this week's chart.

MICHAEL KOLOMATSKY

How Much Space Do You Get?

Here are the communities in which $1,500 a month in rent gets you the most and least space.

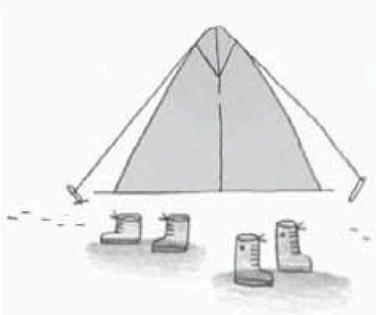
Most Space	SPACE FOR $1,500/MO.	AVERAGE APT. SIZE
1. Wichita, Kan.	**1,463 sq. ft.**	797 sq. ft.
2. Toledo, Ohio	**1,379**	806
3. Tulsa, Okla.	**1,368**	822
4. Oklahoma City	**1,330**	850
5. Memphis	**1,293**	910
6. Fort Wayne, Ind.	**1,263**	884
7. El Paso	**1,222**	812
8. Lubbock, Texas	**1,218**	915
9. Omaha	**1,209**	913
10. Lincoln, Neb.	**1,195**	942

Least Space	SPACE FOR $1,500/MO.	AVERAGE APT. SIZE
91. San Jose, Calif.	**445 sq. ft.**	884 sq. ft.
92. Irvine, Calif.	**445**	920
93. Los Angeles	**423**	791
94. Oakland, Calif.	**418**	784
95. Queens	**393**	727
96. Jersey City, N.J.	**362**	828
97. Brooklyn	**342**	729
98. San Francisco	**336**	743
99. Boston	**320**	814
100. Manhattan	**243**	745

Source: RentCafe THE NEW YORK TIMES

The New York Times




College student who swiped right. New mom. Military police sergeant. Single guy whose date landed him in the emergency room. Hollywood actress. Someone who was ghosted. Chicago marketing engineer. Brooklyn poet. A wife in her final days. And more.

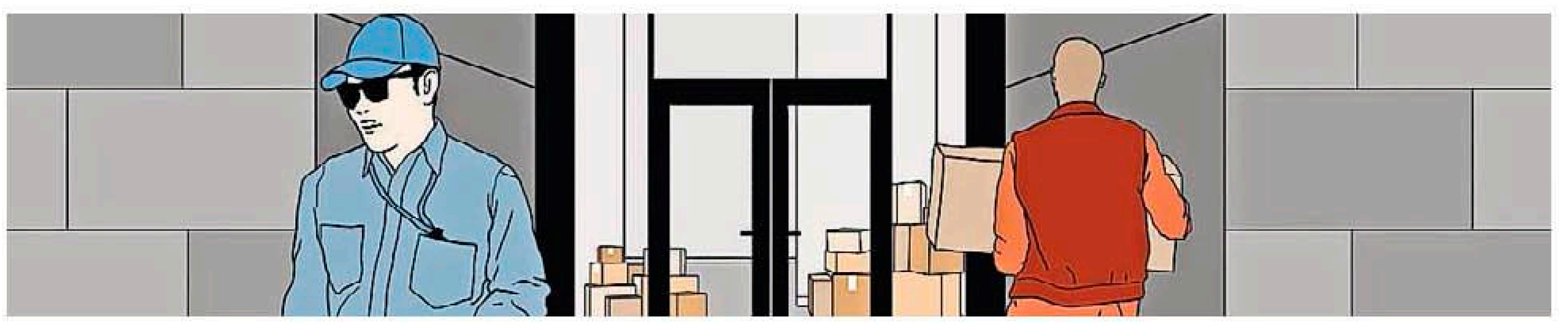
Modern Love

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Ask Real Estate Surveillance Cameras



NADIA PILLON

When Packages Go Missing, Can Tenants Check Security Videos?

I am a property manager for a rental building in Midtown East. In recent months, there has been an increase in the disappearance of packages left by delivery workers in the unattended lobby. (Delivery people are buzzed in all day, so it's hard to keep track of who is coming and going.) We have surveillance cameras in public spaces, but they are for the safety of our tenants, not to monitor packages. But tenants have been asking to see the video footage to investigate the missing packages. Am I allowed or obligated to share this footage with tenants? What are my responsibilities?

You should address a security problem in your building, but sharing video footage with tenants is not the solution. People don't have an expectation of privacy in a lobby, but they also don't expect their landlord to share videos of them getting their packages. The request raises thorny issues: How much of the tape do you share? What do you do with the information you glean? And once you show one tenant video footage, what do you do when the next tenant asks for it?

"It's a slippery slope," said Luise A. Barrack, head of the litigation department at the Manhattan law firm Rosenberg & Estis.

In short, it's not your job to investigate possible criminal activity. That's what the police are for. If you think a crime occurred in the building, or if tenants request access to the video to review it, contact your local precinct for guidance.

"Put it to the Police Department and say, 'Hey, we've had a number of packages that have gone missing, which we believe are as a result of theft,'" Ms. Barrack said. Let them tell you how to proceed.

But as the property manager, you can make your building safer for the residents. Inspect the locks on the outer door to make sure they latch properly. Post signs in the lobby stating that the area is monitored by video surveillance, which could deter thieves. Circulate a letter to tenants reminding them to collect packages promptly and to be mindful of who they buzz into the building. Consider installing a package locker, which would provide your tenants with another layer of security.

RONDA KAYSEN

To submit your questions or comments, email realestateqa@nytimes.com

CORRECTION

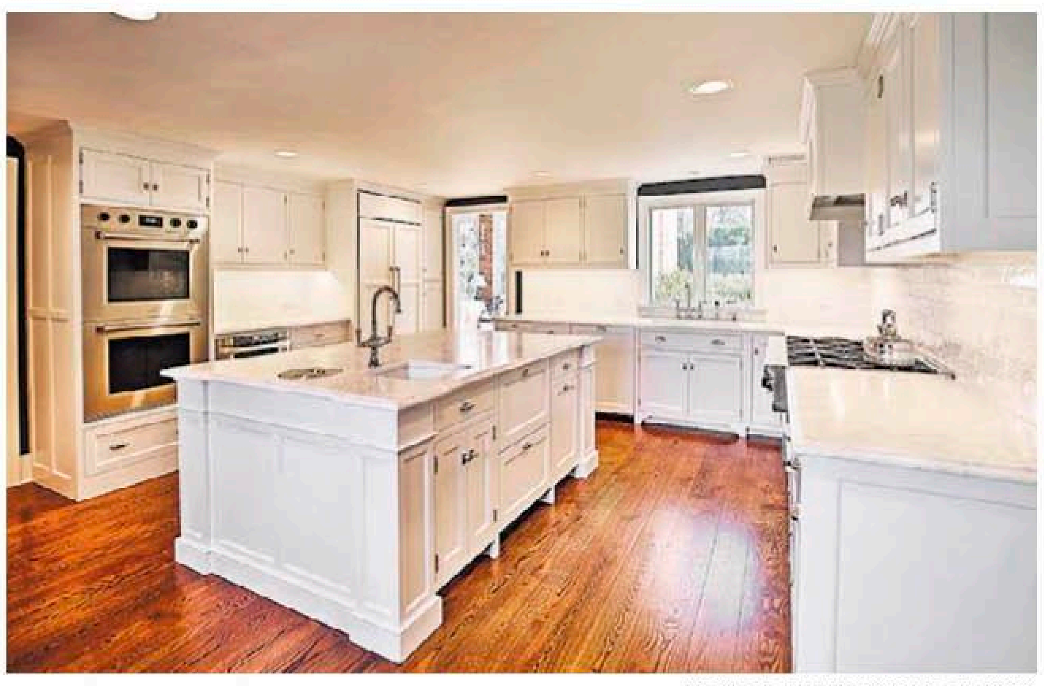
The On the Market feature last Sunday incorrectly described the secondary bedroom at 203 East 72nd Street, No. 24a. It is accessible through a hallway off the kitchen and living areas, not only through the kitchen.

On the Market

HEATHER SENISON







PHOTOGRAPHS BY GERRY-JO CRANMER

BEDMINSTER THREE-BEDROOM

$2,100,000

NEW JERSEY 260 Holland Road
A three-bedroom, four-and-a-half-bath, 4,726-square-foot house built in 1973 with formal living and dining rooms, newly remodeled kitchen and bathrooms, three fireplaces, a family room and a library, on six acres with two double garages and a rentable one-bedroom cottage. Gerry-Jo Cranmer, Turpin Realtors, 908-234-9100; turpinrealtors.com

TAXES $25,599 a year

PROS The two-story sunroom is an elegant space for entertaining. The rental cottage is a distance from the main house.

CONS Though the house is large, it only has three bedrooms, two of which are not particularly spacious or attractive.





CHAPPAQUA FOUR-BEDROOM

$1,775,000

WESTCHESTER 64 West Orchard Road
A four-bedroom, two-full-and-two-half-bath house with formal living and dining rooms, a fireplace, a family room with a built-in bar and desk, an office, a finished lower level with a screening/media space, a terrace and deck, a patio and a garage, on 1.13 acres. Sena Baron, William Raveis, 914-602-8199; raveis.com

TAXES $38,329 a year

PROS The backyard is private and nicely landscaped. A bonus room on the lower level could serve as an au pair suite.

CONS Some buyers may not like that the laundry area is in the primary bedroom suite or that several clothes closets are within the primary bath.

ADDITIONAL REPORTING BY JILL P. CAPUZZO AND ANNE MANCUSO.

Given the fast pace of the current market, some properties may no longer be available at the time of publication.





PHOTOGRAPHS BY MICHAEL WEINSTEIN

UPPER WEST SIDE CONDO

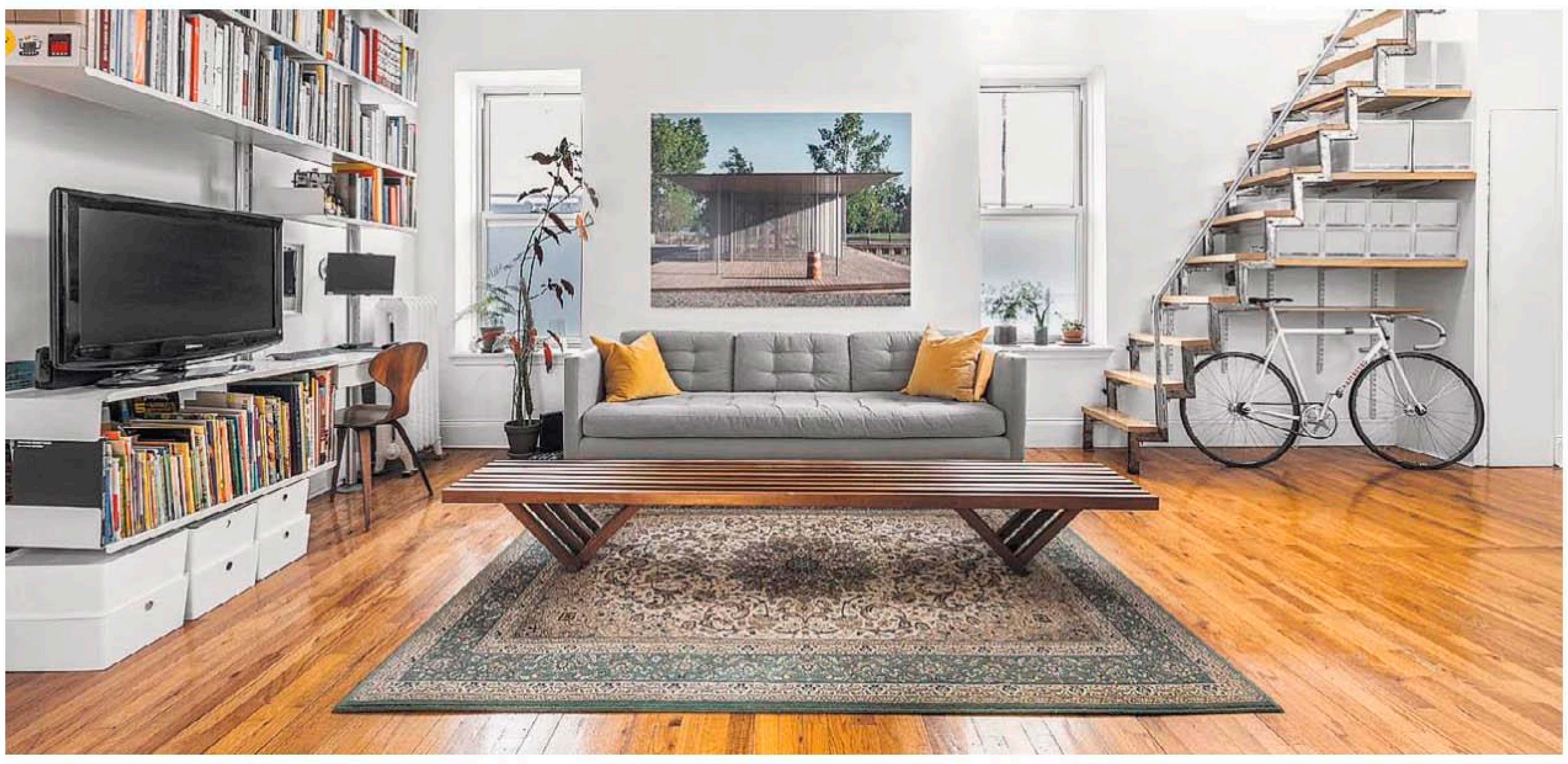
$1,630,000

MANHATTAN 393 West End Avenue, No. 3H
A one-bedroom, one-and-a-half-bath, 995-square-foot unit with a washer/dryer, on the third floor of a doorman building with a handyman, lounge, garden, gym, laundry and bike rooms, and a courtyard. Louise Phillips Forbes, Brown Harris Stevens, 917-846-8640; bhsusa.com

COMMON CHARGES $1,258 a month; taxes, $1,241 a month

PROS The design and finishes from the building's full restoration give this prewar apartment a modern and bright look.

CONS The monthly fees and taxes are steep. Additional storage units cost $40,000 to $80,000 each.



CROWN HEIGHTS CO-OP

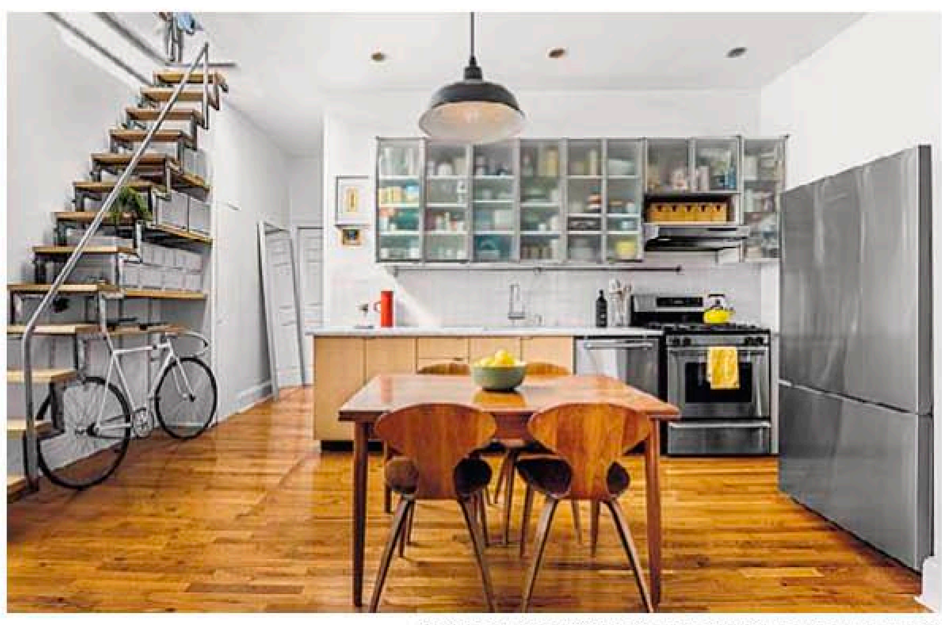
$749,000

BROOKLYN 425 Lincoln Place, No. 3R
A one-bedroom, one-bath, roughly 720-square-foot co-op with a washer/dryer, and storage, on the top floor of a three-story building. Nathalie Roy, Charlie Pigott and Yvonnie Gutierrez, Corcoran, 718-501-8763; corcoran.com

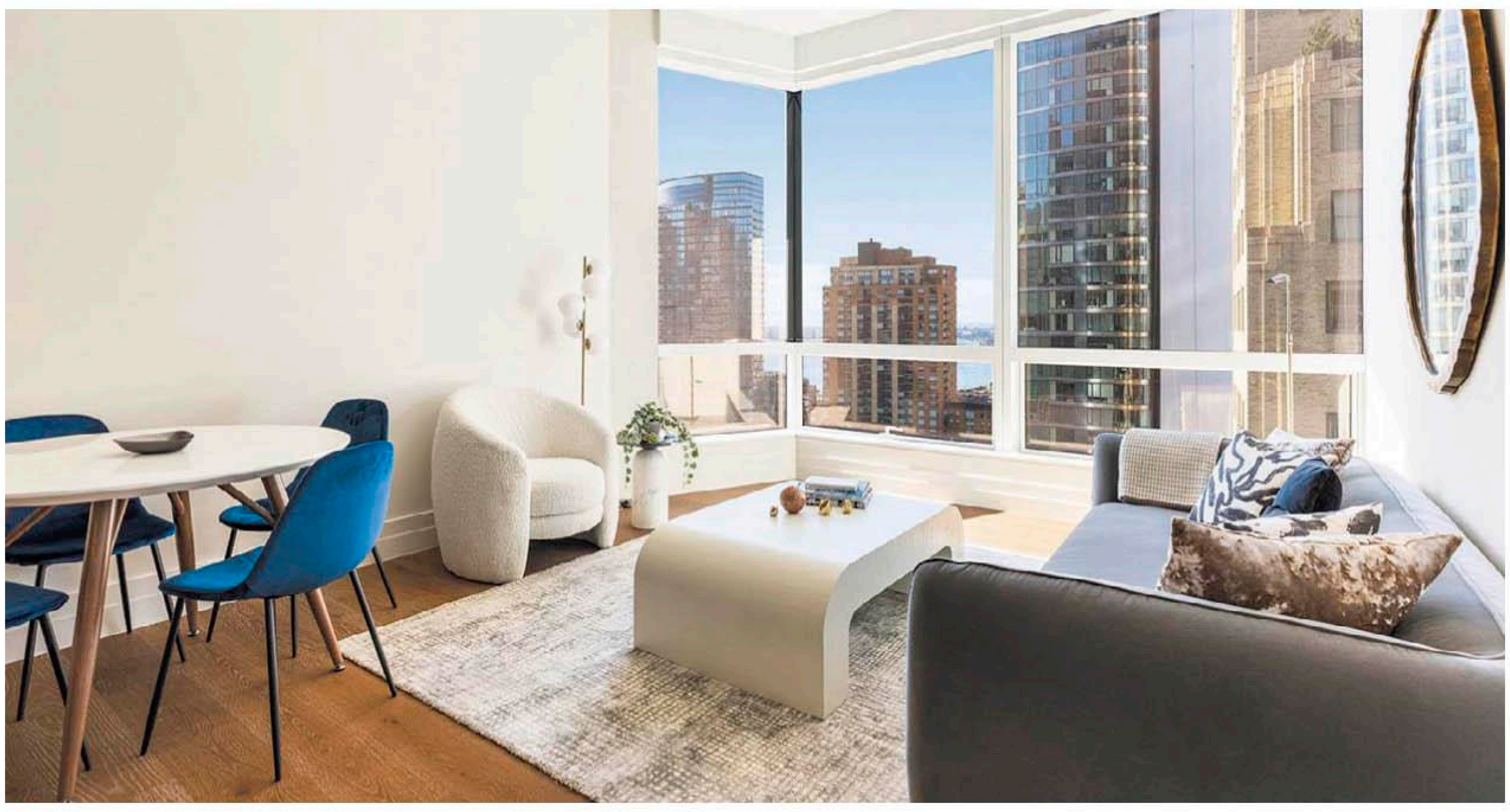
COMMON CHARGES $592 a month

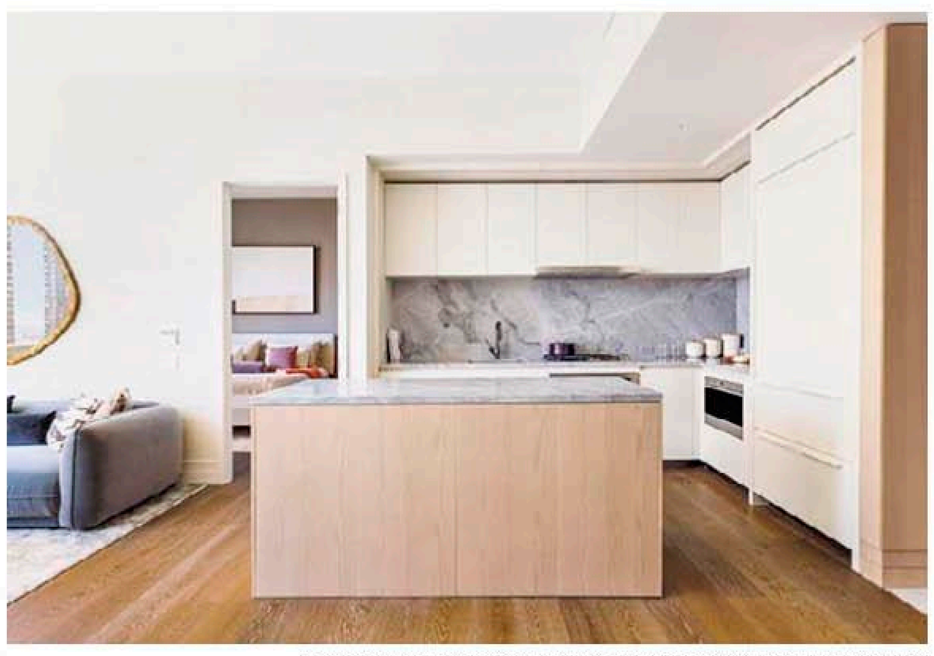
PROS It's quiet outside the bedroom, which is in the rear of the unit. There is private roof access.

CONS It could be a difficult space to cool in the summer as it's on the top floor and requires window units.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY RUSS ROSS FOR THE CORCORAN GROUP





PHOTOGRAPHS BY DONNA DOTAN, VIA SERHANT/NEW DEVELOPMENT

FINANCIAL DISTRICT CONDO

$2,495,000

MANHATTAN 77 Greenwich Street, No. 21C
A two-bedroom, two-and-a-half-bath, 1,328-square-foot unit with a washer/dryer, in a doorman building with a gym, catering kitchen, playroom, storage and roof deck. Brian Chan, Marzena Wawrzaszek and Kelly Klingman, Serhant, 347-543-5039; serhant.com

COMMON CHARGES $1,421 a month; taxes, $1,698 a month

PROS The building's Cloud Club 77 offers more than 10,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor amenities across multiple floors.

CONS The taxes and fees are high, though they cover the amenities.

RENTERS

After a Breakup, a New Space Serves as a Blank Slate

By ANNA KODÉ

When Roxana Kadyrova first moved to New York at age 24 nearly a decade ago, she felt an overwhelming sense of loneliness. Coming from Moscow, she'd always enjoyed the thrill of being in a new place all on her own, but this time was different. Her English wasn't very strong then, so language became another barrier to connection.

"It was such a hole of interminable, terrible loneliness," said Ms. Kadyrova, 34, an artist. "And in this city where everybody's on top of each other, you're just constantly living under the weight of it." As an escape, she threw herself into a relationship. She found comfort in love, and lived with her partner for the next eight years, first in the West Village and then in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, as she pursued her acting career.

But in April 2022, they broke up. To make the work she wanted to make, Ms. Kadyrova said, she needed to be on her own and once again feel that sense of not being tied down to anyone or anything. She needed precarity.

Thrust into an apartment search for the first time in years, Ms. Kadyrova wasn't ready for what would come. She moved her belongings into a storage unit and slept on a friend's couch as she began her hunt.

Looking at listings on StreetEasy was unfruitful — every broker she met presented her with a "Kafkaesque" list of documents she would need in order to apply. She didn't have references, her credit score was negative and she didn't have regular pay stubs (her income mostly came from freelance photo shoots).

She eventually came across a sun-drenched, loft-style apartment in Bushwick, Brooklyn, advertised in a Facebook group. It seemed like the ideal place to live in, and to use as a studio space. When Ms. Kadyrova arrived to see it in person, the landlord told her that the unit posted online was already rented, but he showed her another in the same building.

The landlord used to be an artist, so he understood her situation. Ms. Kadyrova now lives in the converted factory in Bushwick.

Ms. Kadyrova began her career as an actress primarily for theater and soap operas in Moscow. While living in Morocco in the early 2010s, she had a role in the Season 3 finale of "Game of Thrones." That role gave her the confidence to move to New York, Ms. Kadyrova said.

She continued acting when she got to New York, but after her father died during the pandemic lockdown in 2020, she was overcome with grief. That's when she discovered photography. "There was no outlet," Ms. Kadyrova said. "And so I just started making these images to express all this stuff inside of me. And then I realized that each image can be a whole world. And you have so much power and so much control in the fact that you're making a whole world."

A month after she moved into her new apartment, in May 2022, she was accepted into Columbia University's visual arts master's program. But there would be one problem: the commute from Bushwick to Morningside Heights, around West 116th Street in Manhattan.

Ms. Kadyrova has to take three different trains, and it can take anywhere from one to three hours, depending on the time of day and how long she has to wait between transfers, to get from her home to campus. It hasn't been easy, but she uses the commute to do her reading for class.

This is the first apartment Ms. Kadyrova has had all to herself. She's enjoyed being able to do whatever she wants with it, using it as a blank slate to anchor her newly found independence. She sleeps with her mattress on the floor, a habit formed during her early 20s when she was moving from sublet to sublet, but is now an aesthetic choice.

The space is entirely open, with no walls to separate the sleeping area from the kitchen from the living area, so she hung curtains to create movable barriers between spaces. The curtains are also useful for concealing her furniture when she does photo shoots at the apartment.

Ms. Kadyrova also discovered some unexpected neighbors: two sparrows who've made a nest in a hole next to her window. "Their names are Andres and Pedro," she said. "I like watching them."

Another quirk of the apartment is that it's adjacent to a train station, with her windows facing the tracks.

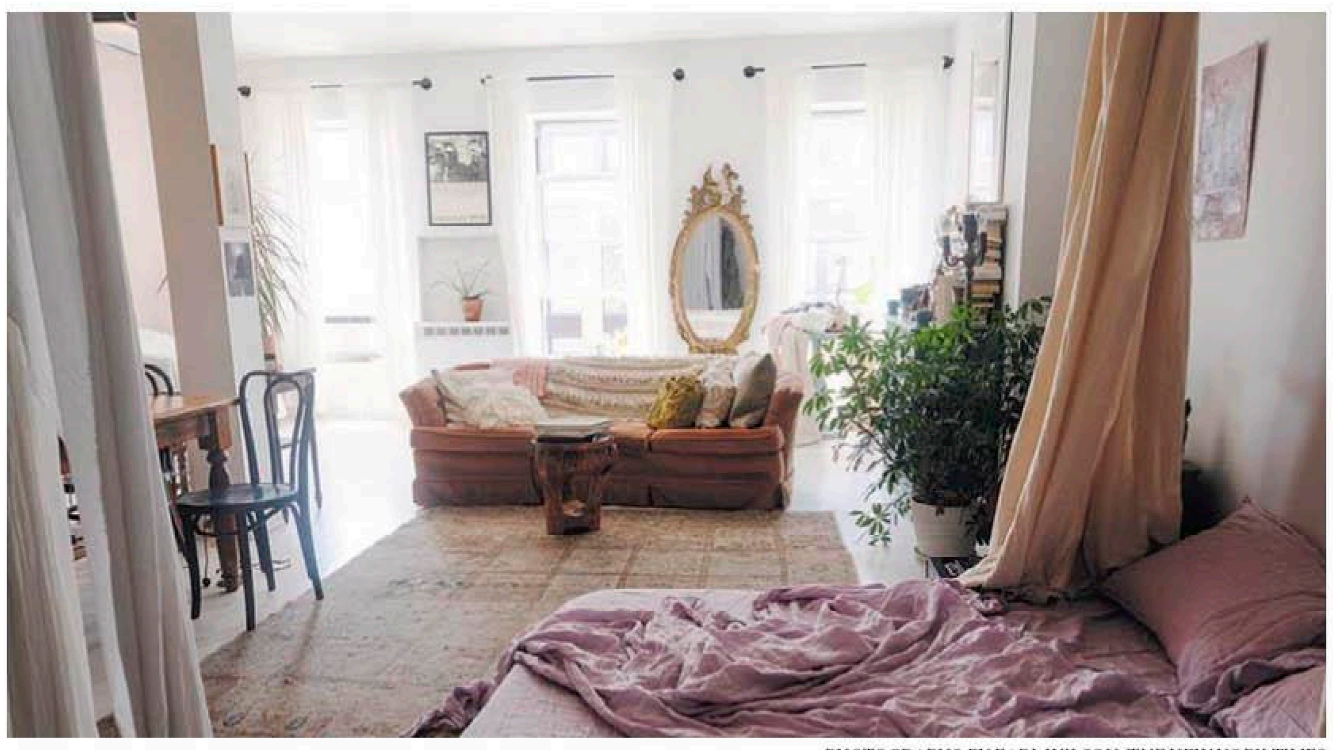
"It's like living inside a train station," Ms. Kadyrova said. "You see the people, you see the tracks, you see everything that goes on. At night, there's a lot of sad-looking people, just looking down at their phones and packaged in their parkas."

At first, the rumble of the train passing by every few minutes took some getting used to for Ms. Kadyrova. The person that she is currently seeing is a light sleeper, so she cups his ears at night to stop the train from waking him, she said.

But now the familiar noise is like a lullaby, and she's able to tell time with it, calling herself a "watcher of the pulse." "I wake up in the morning because the heartbeat becomes extremely intense," Ms. Kadyrova said. "And then I know it's 10 p.m. or 11 p.m., when it slows down."

Know a renter with an interesting story? Email: renters@nytimes.com.





PHOTOGRAPHS BY EARL WILSON/THE NEW YORK TIMES

Top, Roxana Kadyrova at her new apartment in Bushwick, Brooklyn, adjacent to a train station, with windows facing the tracks. Above, the interior of the unit, in a converted factory.

Name Roxana Kadyrova, 34

Occupation Ms. Kadyrova is an artist and photographer pursuing her Masters of Fine Arts at Columbia University. She was also formally trained as an actress in Moscow.

Location Bushwick, Brooklyn

Rent $2,350

On Being Grounded "I'm very attached to the furniture because when you leave your home, furniture becomes your home and it becomes this gravity. I think I attached myself to it when I left my partner. It was just random stuff, like things I found on the street or some stupid sales. It gave me a sense of the past, because I felt I didn't have a past when I came to this city. If the city can't give you gravity, maybe the objects will."

Making Art "I do a lot of things in addition to photography. Right now, I'm working on this kind of alter ego character that is this giant man but without a head, and I'm inside of him. It's like a wearable sculpture."

The Hunt

For a Queens Couple, the Dream Life Includes a Private Spin Cycle

They were looking to buy their own home and didn't want to share a laundry room.

By JOYCE COHEN

It was the neighborhood feel of Astoria, Queens — the walkability, the thriving gay community, the relatively low scale — that first attracted Steven Salazar and Stefano Verdesoto. Two years ago, the couple rented a one-bedroom there, paying $2,300 a month. They didn't have much use for the amenities but were smitten with their stacked washer and dryer.

They saved assiduously during the pandemic. After paying off their student loans, they were ready for "that next phase of our lives," said Mr. Salazar, 30, who is from El Paso, Texas, and works in advertising.

Mr. Verdesoto, 31, who grew up in Jackson Heights, Queens, after arriving with his family from Ecuador, said, "As an immigrant and a first-generation college graduate, the dream was always to buy property." He is an administrator in higher education.

Hoping to find a one-bedroom in or near Astoria with space for their six-seat dining table, they focused on new condominiums, mostly because they wanted in-unit laundry machines, and co-op apartments with washers and dryers in were scarce.

"It's funny how a basic thing is not basic in New York," Mr. Verdesoto said. In every common laundry room he encountered, he said, "I had flashbacks to having to do laundry in college."

Their budget was about $700,000. Inventory was limited, which was fine with them. "Anything beyond maybe four or five options creates analysis paralysis, where there's too much to consider," Mr. Salazar said.

For help, they contacted Harjot Kaur Nayar, a saleswoman at Keller Williams NYC, referred by a friend's sister.

"We reviewed what they would get in the $500s, $600s and $700s," Ms. Nayar said, "and what matched their financial preferences and comfort level."

Among their options:

1. ASTORIA ONE-BEDROOM WITH PATIO

This ground-floor one-bedroom was about 515 square feet, in a new seven-unit building with a common roof deck. It had an open kitchen with a peninsula, but no room for a dining table. The large finished outdoor space was reached by sliding doors from the bedroom and living room. The asking price was $688,000, with monthly charges in the low $900s.

The Buyers Steven Salazar, left, and Stefano Verdesoto in their Queens neighborhood.



ANDREA MOHIN/THE NEW YORK TIMES

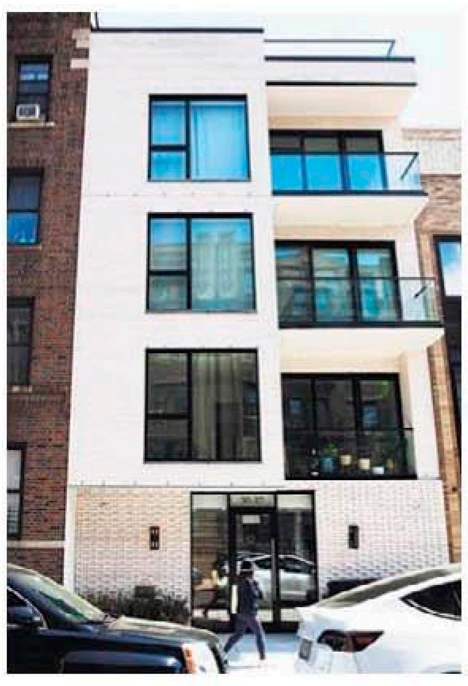
'It's actually kind of terrifying to be a first-time home buyer,' Mr. Salazar says.

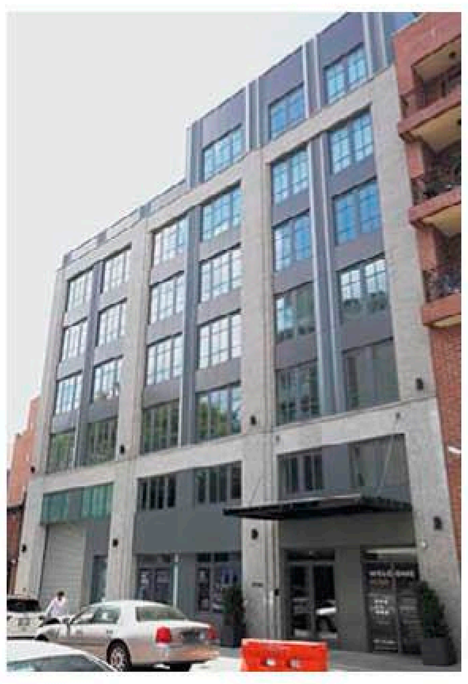
The Options

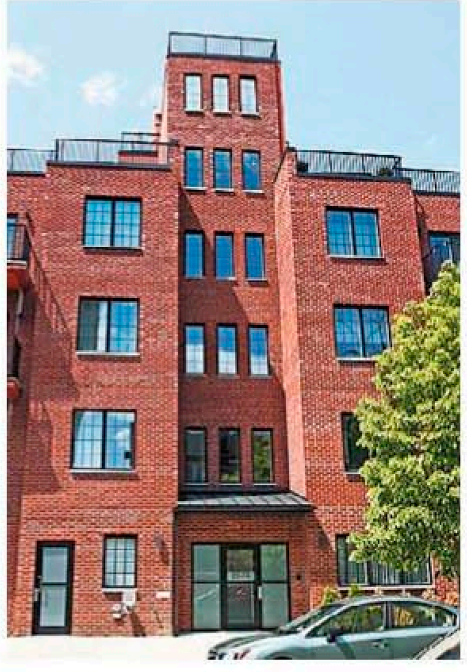
1. A ground-floor one-bedroom unit in Astoria, Queens, was small but had a large finished outdoor space.

2. A small one-bedroom condo unit in the Dutch Kills neighborhood, near Astoria, had an open living, dining and kitchen area.

3. A two-bedroom Astoria condo that faced a parking lot had a large living space and an open kitchen in a building with a roof deck.







2. HIGH-TECH CONDO IN DUTCH KILLS

This one-bedroom was about 615 square feet, in a 70-unit doorman development in Dutch Kills, a neighborhood just south of Astoria. It had an open living, dining and kitchen area. The building had a gym and a courtyard. The price was $695,000, with monthly charges in the $900s.

3. ASTORIA TWO-BEDROOM CONDO

This two-bedroom, one-bathroom condominium was just under 800 square feet, in a new 17-unit elevator building with a roof deck. It had a large living space and an open kitchen. But the bedrooms were small, and the apartment was on a low floor, facing a parking lot. The price was $698,000, with monthly charges of around $800.

THEIR CHOICE

The ground-floor one-bedroom was the first apartment the couple saw. It struck them as small, but the patio, which was lined with shrubs, was enticing.

"It was an exciting first visit," Mr. Salazar said. "We were probably a little bit dazzled."

At the Dutch Kills apartment, Mr. Salazar disliked the lack of a conventional oven. "This is top-of-the-line everything and you don't have a full oven?" he said. "This is a staple, an essential."

The two-bedroom was appealing but the bedrooms were smaller than they appeared in pictures. And the couple didn't like the parking-lot view or the finishes.

So they returned to the first place they saw, and its patio. "There was an excitement, a brightness to it, having a personal backyard," Mr. Verdesoto said.

They negotiated the price down to $675,000 and arrived last winter.

A few things needed fixing: a nonworking outlet, warped floors, some dead shrubs.

"That was also a little bit overwhelming," Mr. Salazar said. "We dropped all this money and expected everything to be perfect sunshine and happiness, and then reality happened. It's actually kind of terrifying to be a first-time home buyer."

They reluctantly sold their dining table and bought an eight-seat outdoor table from Ikea for the patio, along with lounge chairs and a grill.

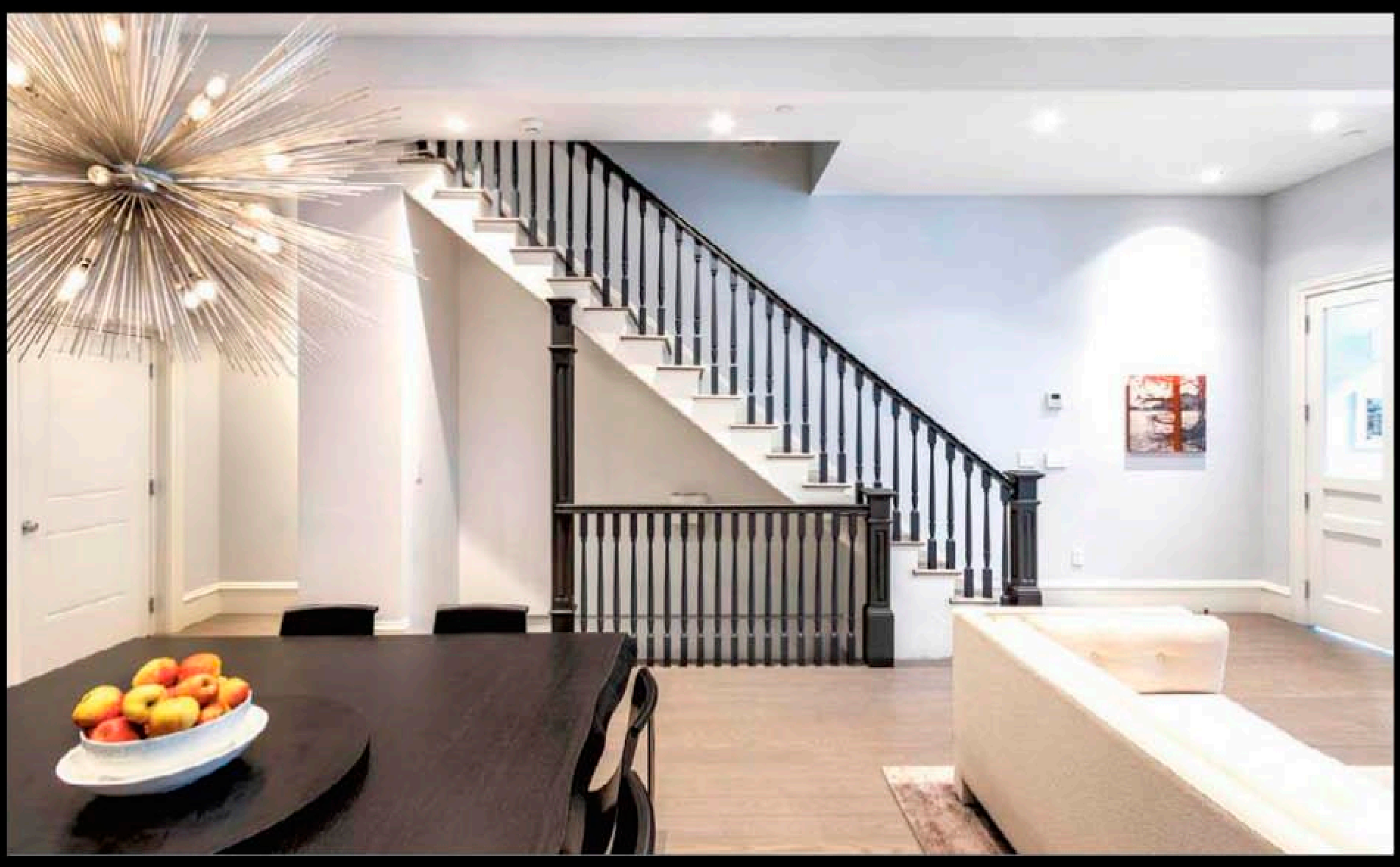
The unit came with a combination washer-dryer. "It takes more time and is a little bit louder," Mr. Salazar said. But they set the timer, so when they return from work the laundry is ready for folding. "Maybe down the road we can figure out how to install a stackable," he said.

EMAIL *thehunt@nytimes.com*





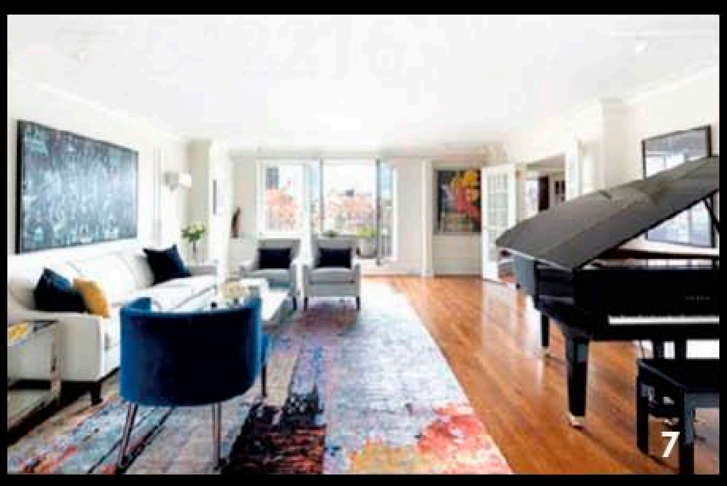
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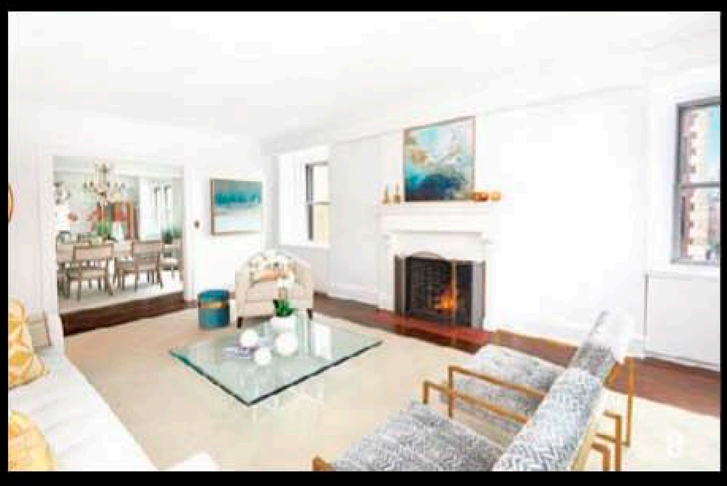


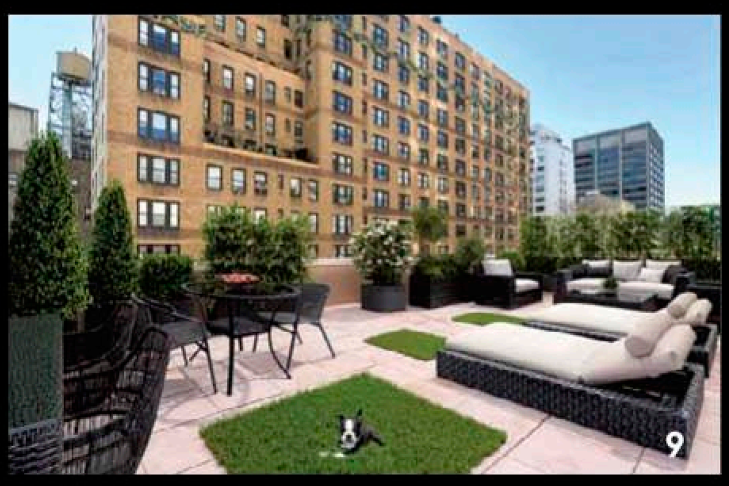


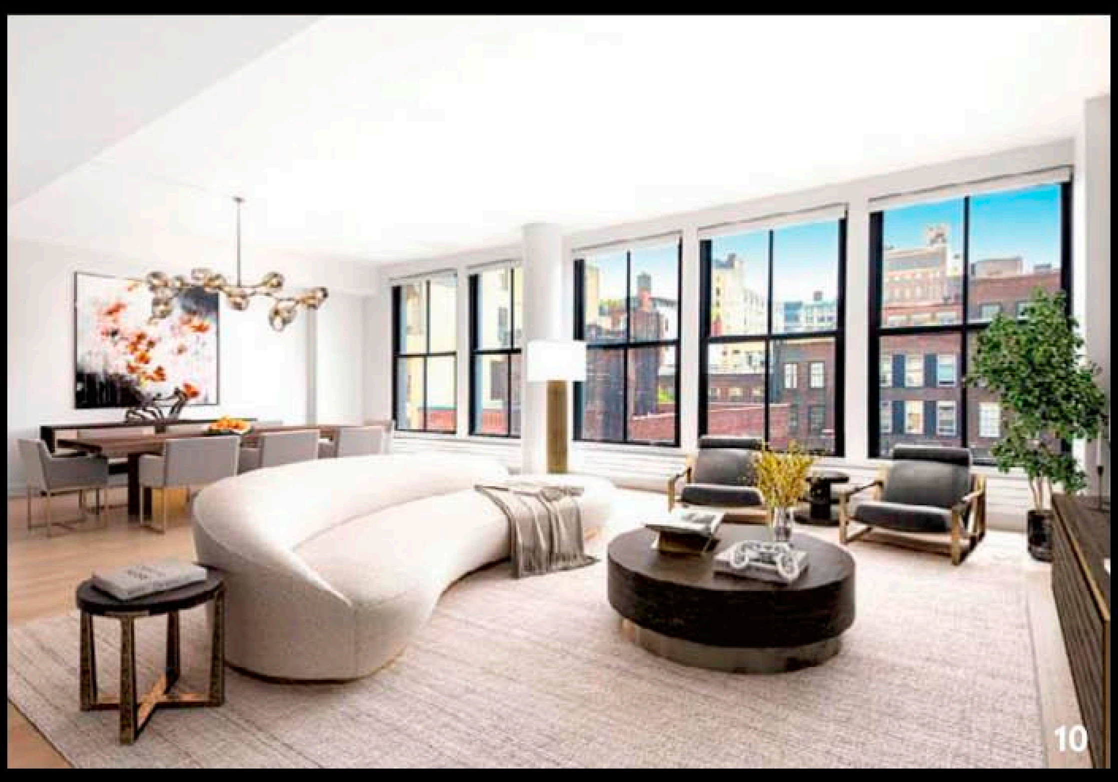


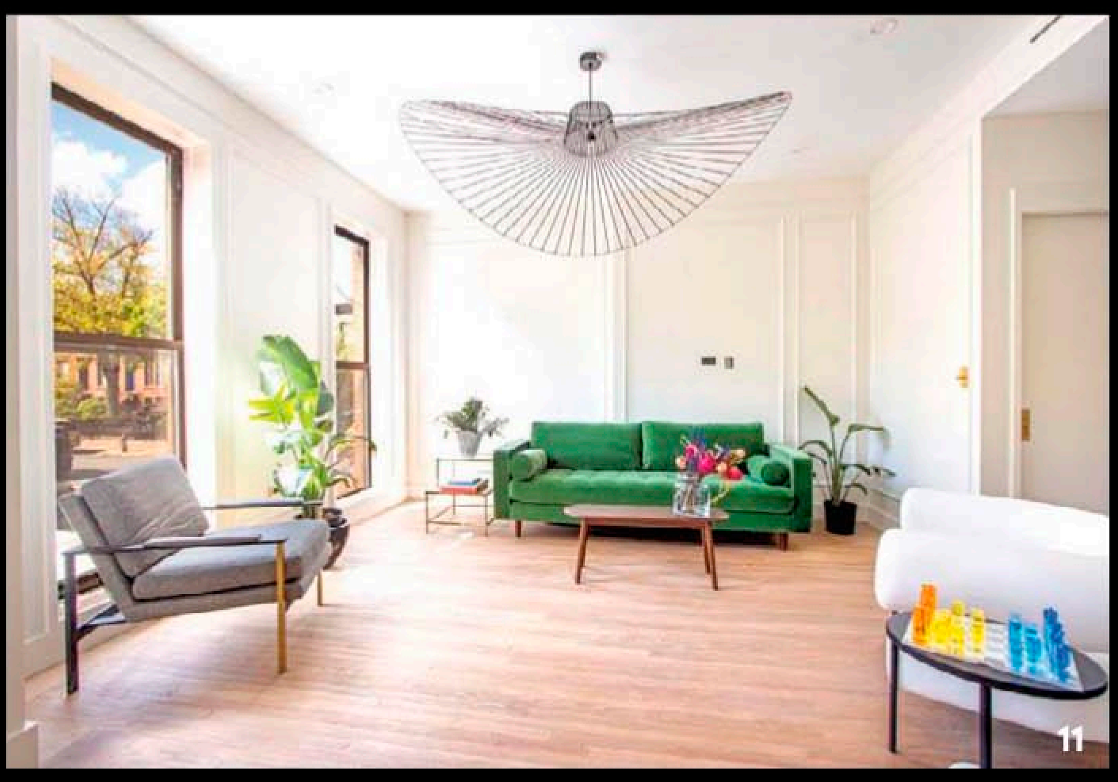


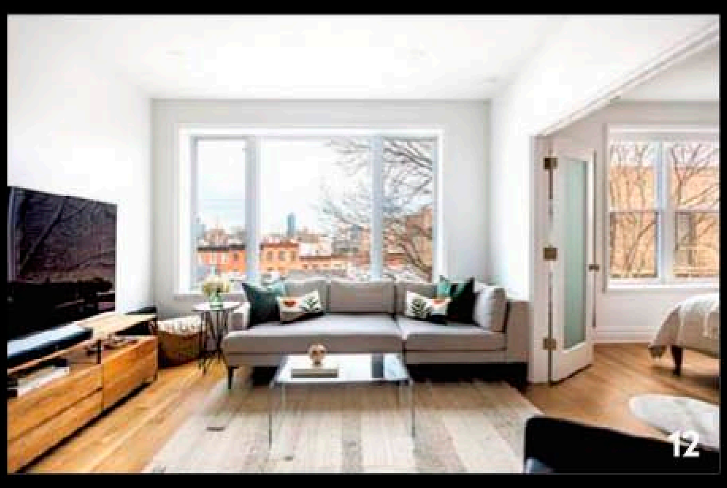




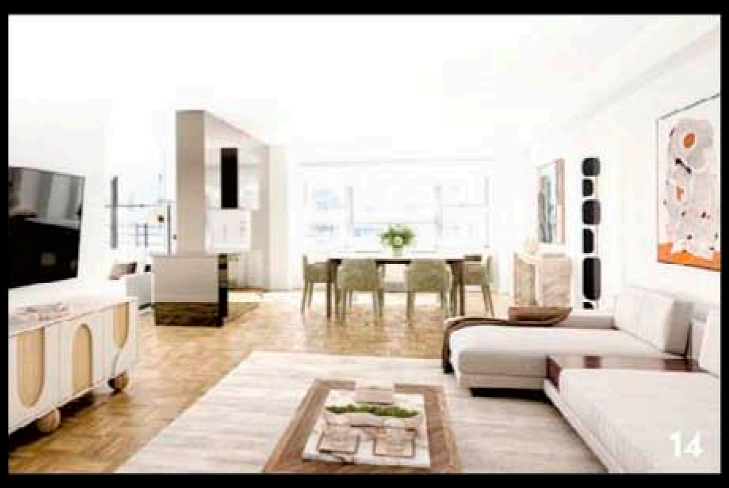


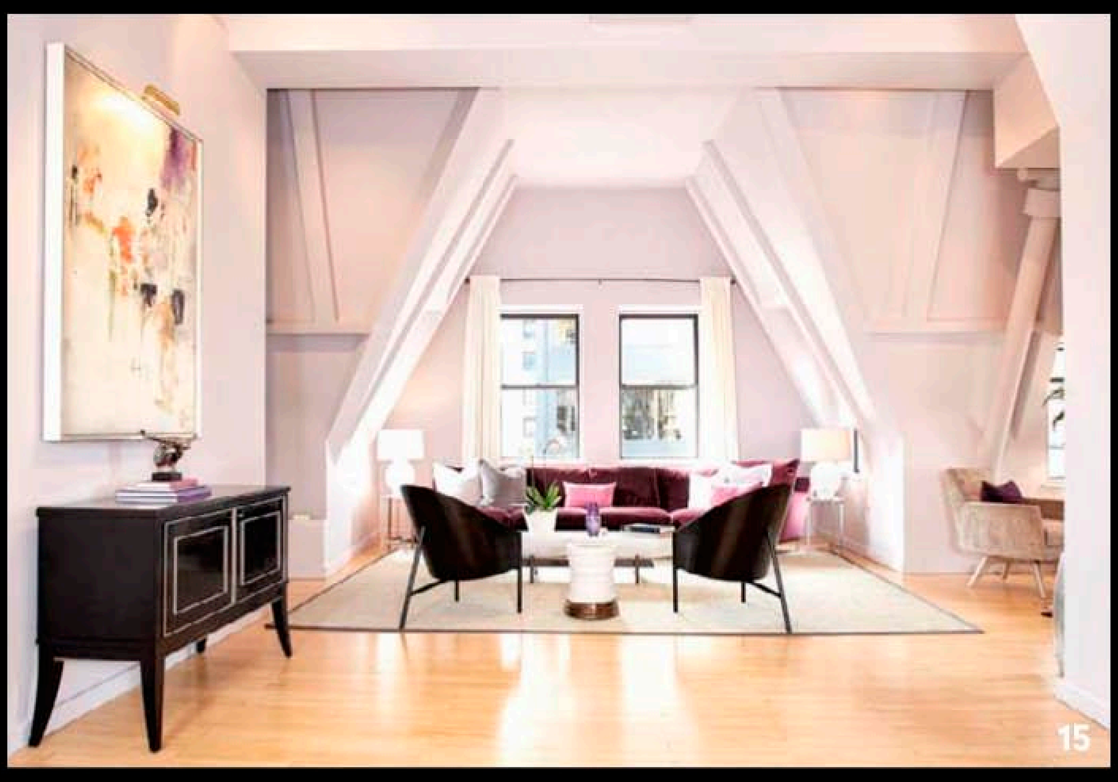


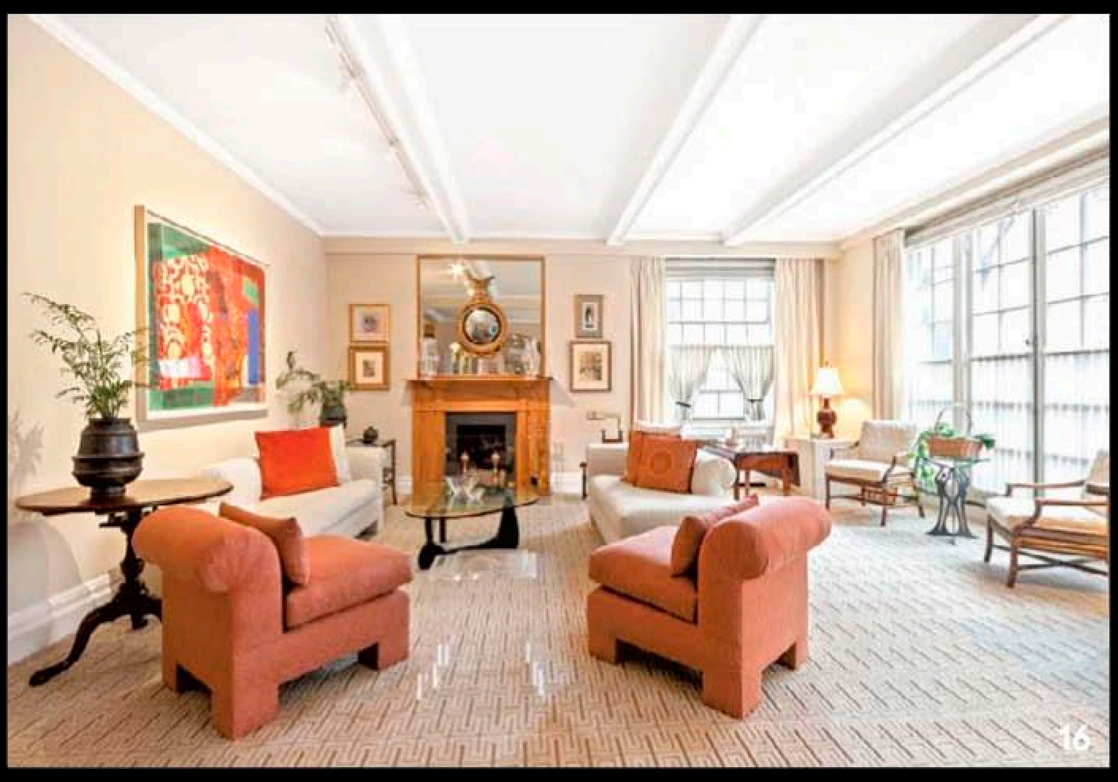












1. **27' Wide Single Family Townhouse**
10 Pineapple St. 5BR. 4.5 Bath
$9.75M Web #22272241
Jennifer H. Cooke 917-733-6346

2. **Private Full Floor - 14 Rooms**
927 Fifth Ave. 6BR. 5 Bath
$28.55M Web #19199709
John Burger 212-906-9274

3. **Flawless Single Family House**
304 West 90th St. 6BR. 9.5 Bath
$12.8M Web #21729485
Gregory M. Roache 917-291-0805
Emily Cho Roache 917-402-3939

4. **Renovated Five Bedroom Brownstone**
Renovated Five Bedroom Brownstone
1039 Bloomfield St. Hoboken, NJ.
5BR. 5.5 Bath. $4.75M Web #22265991
Peter Cossio 917-855-5817

5. **17th Floor Residence at The Charles Condominium**
1355 First Ave. 4BR. 4 Bath
$7.995M Web #22315840
Joshua D. Arcus 518-461-0668
Peggy F. Dahan 646-544-9992

6. **The Remarkable Irving Berlin Penthouse**
130 East End Ave. 4BR. 4.5 Bath
$7.5M Web #21842608
Paula Del Nunzio 917-826-9485

7. **Rexrode Chirigos Private Residence**
114 East 72nd St. 3BR. 3.5 Bath
$5.6M Web #22411471
Jill Bernard 516-445-6707
Jeffrey Stockwell 917-449-3433

8. **High Floor Classic Seven**
1035 Park Ave. 3BR. 2 Bath
$2.895M Web #22418708
James Foreman 323-314-1906
Amanda S. Brainerd 917-494-8858
Gerard Ryan 212-452-6262

9. **A Terrace Lover's Dream**
205 East 68th St. 2BR. 2 Bath
$2.8M Web #21513477
Bonnie Goldner 917-355-5386

10. **Trophy 4-Bedroom SoHo Penthouse**
139 Wooster St. 4BR. 4 Bath
$7.3M Web #22449323
Candice Milano 203-837-6992
Malessa Rambarran 347-852-3513

11. **Exquisitely Renovated Carroll Gardens Townhouse**
333 Hoyt St. 4BR. 3.5 Bath
$4.95M Web #22339876
Nicole Flowers 212-537-6733

12. **Bright, Light and Great Views**
415 9th St. 2BR. 2 Bath
$1.2M Web #22344641
Joel Phillip Lasher 917-626-3217
Jill Seligson Braver 718-858-5905

13. **Breathtaking Views**
111 East 85th St. 1BR. 1.5 Bath
$1.095M Web #22372747
Lauren Bogan 973-943-0117

14. **Create Your 4 Room Sutton Gem**
50 Sutton Place S. 1BR. 1.5 Bath
$395K Web #22396286
Burt F. Savitsky 917-561-0925
Gerald H. Crown 917-838-0289
Jessica L. Savitsky 917-767-2648

15. **Landmark Liberty Tower - 31st Floor Penthouse**
55 Liberty St. 4BR. 4 Bath
$1.895M Web #21737078
Richard N. Rothbloom 917-613-1610

16. **Sophisticated Classic Boutique Co-Op**
130 East 67th St. 2BR. 2.5 Bath
$2.135M Web #22320143
Sandra Y. Friedman 917-693-3458

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Exclusive

As the Beaches of Malibu Beckon, Rosie O'Donnell Lists Her Manhattan Penthouse

The duplex apartment in the Turtle Bay neighborhood is on the market for $8.3 million.

By VIVIAN MARINO

Rosie O'Donnell is bidding farewell to New York City, at least for the time being.

The comedian, actress and serial real estate buyer has decided to sell her last remaining Manhattan property: a sprawling penthouse in the Turtle Bay neighborhood with an immense rooftop terrace and stunning East River vistas.

Ms. O'Donnell, 61, who was raised on Long Island, recently relocated to the West Coast with her youngest daughter, Dakota, 10. She bought a modern farmhouse for $4.6 million in the Beverlywood neighborhood of Los Angeles in late 2021, though only four months later sold it for a small profit. She is now renting a beachfront home in Malibu, Calif., reportedly near the actor Fran Drescher.

The Turtle Bay apartment, one of two penthouses in the Sterling Plaza condominium, at 255 East 49th Street near Second Avenue, is on the market for $8.3 million, according to the listing broker, Paul Anand of Brown Harris Stevens. Monthly common charges are $4,784. Ms. O'Donnell paid $8 million in 2017 for the unit, which had served as her primary residence.

The nearly 3,600-square-foot apartment, on the red brick tower's top two floors, has four bedrooms and three full bathrooms, with a 1,620-square-foot roof terrace, where there is also an enclosed 120-square-foot pantry and kitchenette. (Mr. Anand says the penthouse is being marketed as a duplex, not a triplex, despite this extra room.)

"The crown jewel of the property is the terrace, with its 360-degree views of Manhattan's Chrysler Building, the Empire State Building and East River," Mr. Anand said. "It's like a private oasis. And it's what sold Rosie on the apartment."

Ms. O'Donnell also appreciated the top-to-bottom renovations undertaken by the previous owners, he said, as well as its high-end finishes, like the imported Russian wide-plank oak floors, marble bathrooms and Boffi kitchen. Sound and lighting systems were also installed.

"It was turnkey condition," Mr. Anand said, "and the new owners won't have to do anything to it, either."

The main level of the home is on the 33rd floor. A small entryway leads to a great room, where there is a living room area with a honed black granite fireplace and a formal dining area with cozy window seats and an onyx-clad wet bar with a wine refrigerator and a sink. Centrally located is a sculptured, curvy staircase.

"It's perfect for entertaining," Mr. Anand said of the layout, "and you can take your guests up the stairs to the terrace."

At the opposite end of the floor is a large eat-in kitchen. "You get two of every top-of-the-line appliance," Mr. Anand said, noting the Gaggenau refrigerators, including one for wine, and the Miele ovens and dishwashers. There is also a center island/breakfast bar, Corian countertops and an integrated espresso and cappuccino maker.

Near the kitchen is a bedroom and bathroom.

The primary bedroom suite, measuring 14½ by 20 feet, is down a separate hallway near the entrance to the apartment. It has a wall of closets and an en suite bathroom with a steam shower and soaking tub.

On the floor below is another bathroom, a sauna and two more bedrooms, one of which comes with a walk-in closet and a balcony.

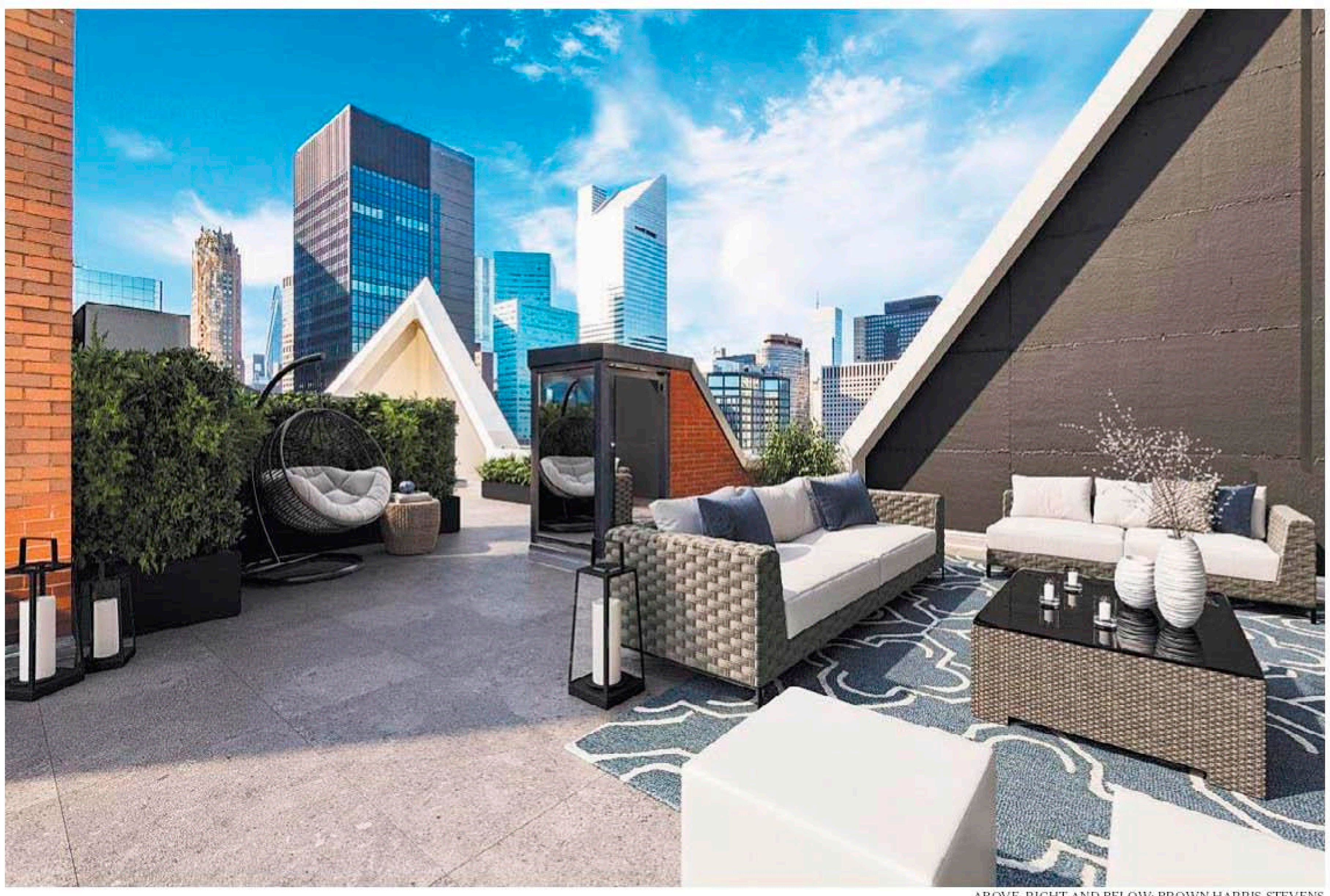
The rooftop terrace has areas carved out for dining and lounging.

Ms. O'Donnell, a former host of "The View," more recently starred in the Showtime drama series "American Gigolo," which was filmed in Southern California. Over the years, she has bought and sold numerous properties up and down the Eastern Seaboard. These have included homes in Greenwich, Conn.; Saddle River, N.J.; Nyack, N.Y.; Miami Beach; and West Palm Beach, Fla. (The West Palm house was just six miles away from former President Donald J. Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort. Ms. O'Donnell and Mr. Trump have famously feuded for years.)

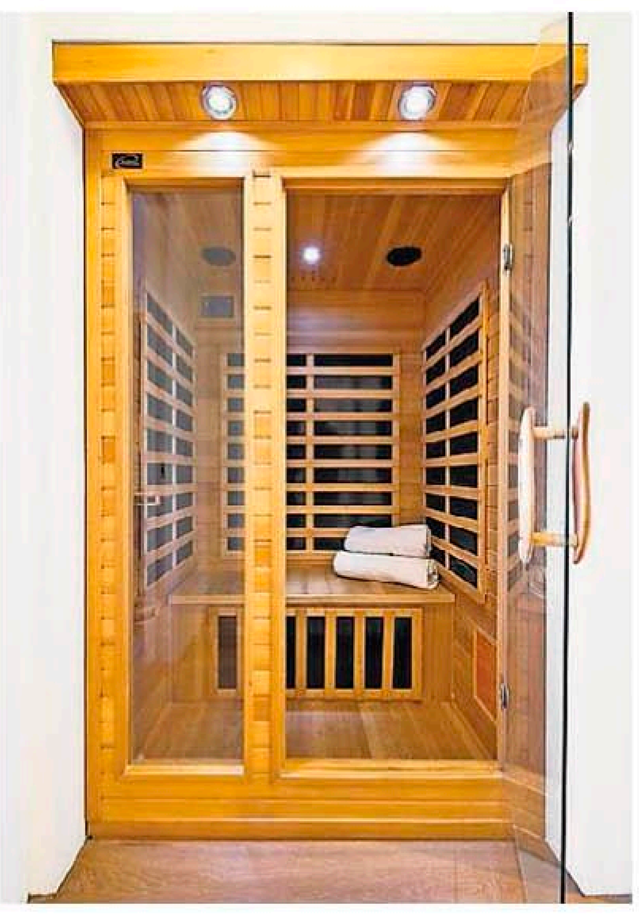
Her transactions in Manhattan have included the 2014 sale of another duplex penthouse, at 130 West 12th Street in Greenwich Village, and last year a one-bedroom, one-bathroom apartment at 350 West 53rd Street in Hell's Kitchen, which she had used as a pied-à-terre.

Judging by her frequent Instagram and TikTok posts, it looks as if Ms. O'Donnell's next real estate purchase might be in Malibu.

"I gotta say, I love it here so much," she told her followers, showing off the direct ocean views and picturesque sunsets from her balcony. "It's beautiful here. It really is."

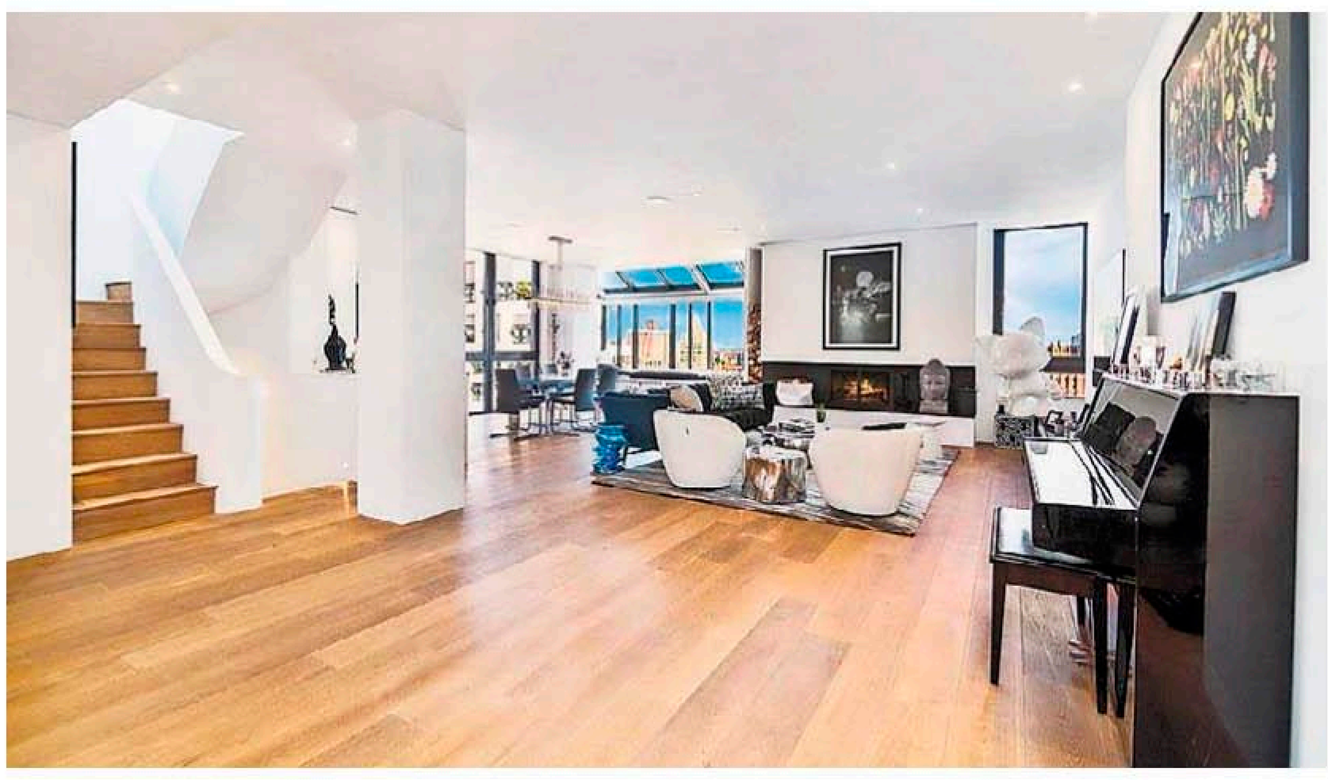


ABOVE, RIGHT AND BELOW: BROWN HARRIS STEVENS





AMANDA EDWARDS/GETTY IMAGES



Above, Rosie O'Donnell in California in February. She recently relocated to the West Coast and is selling her last remaining Manhattan property: a penthouse on East 49th Street with, clockwise from top, a rooftop terrace, a sauna and a great room.

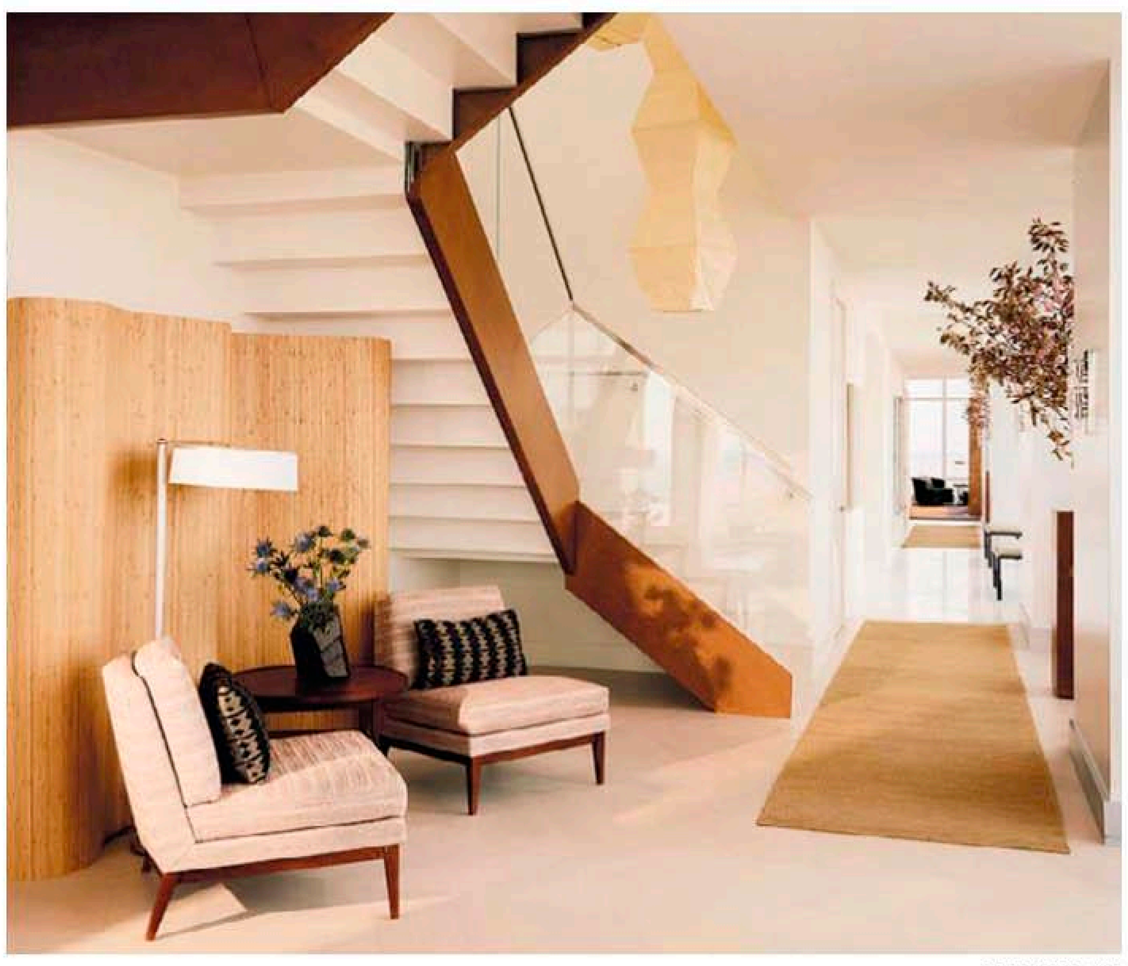
Some 'Succession' Apartments Are Now for Sale



HBO, VIA ASSOCIATED PRESS



SEAN HEMMERLE



WILLIAM LAIRD

Top left, Sarah Snook, Kieran Culkin, center, and Jeremy Strong in "Succession." Above, the penthouse at 180 East 88th Street, and left, a four-bedroom duplex at 200 Amsterdam, where scenes of the HBO show were filmed.

Brokers hope the mystique of the Roy family can help sell the multimillion-dollar homes.

By RONDA KAYSEN

If Roman Roy were a real person, he wouldn't live on the Upper West Side.

So said a real-life real estate broker recently. Yet, Roman's apartment during the fourth season of "Succession," the hit HBO show about three megarich siblings vying for control of their father's media empire, is actually a penthouse at 200 Amsterdam Avenue, with panoramic city views. Fans of the show were there with Roman (played by Kieran Culkin) during a recent episode when he solemnly brushed his teeth the morning after a devastating plot twist.

The four-bedroom duplex is on the market for $38 million. Daniella G. Schlisser, the real-life associate broker with Brown Harris Stevens and a listing agent for the apartment, said that if Roman were a real person, she would redirect him south, probably to TriBeCa, where he might receive a warmer welcome. Given his winning personality, she'd advise him, "No one's going to talk to you here — you won't make any friends" in the family-oriented Upper West Side.

Two other "Succession" locations are also on the market — Roman's Chelsea townhouse from Season 2, listed for $22.5 million (down from $24.995 million), and his brother Kendall Roy's Upper East Side penthouse from Season 4, listed for $29 million (down from $33 million). The brokers for all three listings are leaning into the show's addictive love-to-hate watchability as they try to persuade buyers to pluck the trophies in a sluggish housing market.

"I had someone call me and offer me a good number because they saw the show," said Lila Nejad, a Douglas Elliman saleswoman and the listing agent for Roman's Season 2 townhouse on West 17th Street. But it's still on the market, and now rented to a tenant paying $100,000 a month to live in six stories of opulence, with a home theater, private garage and indoor resistance pool.

To bring more traffic to 200 Amsterdam, Ms. Schlisser teamed up with the sales team for the penthouse at 180 East 88th Street — where viewers this season watched Kendall (Jeremy Strong) slump on his Brutalistesque bedroom floor in grief — to host a doubleheader brokers' open house last Tuesday, giving the real estate community a taste of where a Roy heir (or, better yet, their real-life client) could live.

"People want what everyone else has deemed fabulous," said Ms. Schlisser, standing in the living room of the 200 Amsterdam penthouse, as she admired the view of northern Manhattan and the Bronx. "And this is what they chose."

Paul Eskenazi, a location manager for "Succession," doesn't see Roman Roy as much of an Upper West Sider either — something he considered when selecting options for Jesse Armstrong, the show's creator.

"It's a balancing act, really," Mr. Eskenazi said. But if Roman did live in the area, he would probably choose 200 Amsterdam. At 668 feet, the building is the tallest in the neighborhood and was at the center of a protracted legal dispute with community organizations that waged an ultimately unsuccessful battle to lop off the top 20 floors.

To give the space Roman vibes, set dressers rearranged the primary bedroom, adding an oversize print of a woman's bare breasts above the bed. Other Romulus details included a vape pen tossed on a desk and a night stand filled with books, including "Bad Sex" by Nona Willis-Aronowitz.

The room was pumped full of cologne to set the mood. "It was really musky, like a sleazy kind of smell," said Matthew R. Breeden, a vice president at SJP Properties, a developer of the building, who attended the shoot last summer.

If Kendall Roy lived north of 59th Street, Mr. Eskenazi suspects it would be in a building like 180 East 88th Street, which he described as feeling more downtown than Upper East Side. "It's sexy, it's cool," he said. "It's that feeling of him being on top of the world, perched up somewhere in the sky, looking down on everyone else."

Can a hot television show offset a cooling housing market?

The developers of the Kendall penthouse — a triplex with a spiraling staircase, 28-foot ceilings in the dining area and dramatic arched windows — aren't done making the most of the showstopping location. The building's resident lounge doubled as Shiv Roy's (Sarah Snook) office on the most recent episode, and its wine cellar made a brief appearance with Lukas Matsson (Alexander Skarsgard) in the show's trailer. On the morning a reporter visited, Fendi had taken over the five-bedroom space to host a private event. Racks of fur coats filled the living room.

"Anytime you do a collaboration with someone, you want to make sure the collaboration fits with your brand," said Joseph A. McMillan Jr., founder and chief executive of DDG, a developer of the building, describing his brand as "high-end luxury, exquisite and aspirational."

But is there a downside to tying a property to America's most loathsome — even if it's fictional? Might some billionaire find the connection off-putting? Ms. Schlisser isn't concerned. "You mean the other kind of superrich?" she asked. "What kind is that? The kind that accidentally became superrich but is really low-key?"

ADVERTISEMENT



How to Plan for the 100-Year Life

A stunning view from the 32-acre River's Edge campus along the Hudson River.

One NYC senior living community is asking itself and its future residents an important question: "What would it take to live to 100 at 100%?"

When it comes to living to 100, we should look for clues from the world's five "blue zones" where people routinely live long, healthy lives. Currently, California and New York lead the U.S. in centenarians, and with leaps in modern medicine and healthier lifestyles, living to 100 is more likely than ever before.

River's Edge aspires to foster its own version of a blue zone in New York. Now being developed, this independent living community is located on a scenic 32-acre campus along the Hudson River. When completed, it will be NYC's only nonprofit Life Plan Community.

"If people live to 100, we want them engaged, active, and fulfilled," said RiverSpring Living CEO Daniel Reingold. *"Our goal is to provide a beautiful environment with great amenities, easy access to the arts, and intellectual engagement close to Manhattan."* River's Edge will build on the 106-year legacy of RiverSpring Living, which many know by the reputation of the Hebrew Home at Riverdale.

A CO-CREATED COMMUNITY

Future River's Edge resident Mr. R. Cohn said, *"I like the idea of being a part of a community of like-minded people."* He's in good company. Currently, nearly half of River's Edge apartments are reserved. These early adopters, known as Founders Club members, include professors, artists, performers, Wall Streeters, and other NYC professionals. Founders like the idea of co-creating the culture of where they will be living and they collaborate on key aspects, including dining and activities.

Early depositors have more control over the size of their apartments too. *"We allow people to reserve adjacent apartments and connect them for larger floor plans,"* said Reingold.

A NURTURING NATURE

Founders Club member Ms. B. Marder notes, *"I just love all the green, and it's very life-affirming…I love being in a place that looks like this."* Key to any aspiring blue zone is access to a walkable lifestyle, which contributes to attention, cognition, and well-being. Located directly across from the New Jersey Palisades, a protected natural landmark, residents will have spectacular views and open green spaces. In addition to nearly a mile of walking paths, the grounds feature dozens of outdoor sculptures, Rover's Edge dog park, and a Zen meditation garden.

POWERFUL PARTNERSHIPS

River's Edge follows the legacy of the Hebrew Home at Riverdale, continuing today with a long-standing relationship with NewYork-Presbyterian.

With world-class doctors from Columbia and Weill Cornell Medicine, NewYork-Presbyterian provides exceptional care from the nation's top experts.

Because of this affiliation, residents of River's Edge will have access to the preeminent healthcare delivery system dedicated to providing the highest quality, most compassionate care.

THE PURSUIT OF WELLNESS

The cornerstone of River's Edge is a signature lifestyle and wellness program called FLOW. It supports healthy aging with fitness classes, mind-body offerings, artistic expression, and workshops to support thriving. In addition to FLOW, River's Edge partners with neighboring College of Mount Saint Vincent, where residents can audit college courses and participate in intergenerational learning.

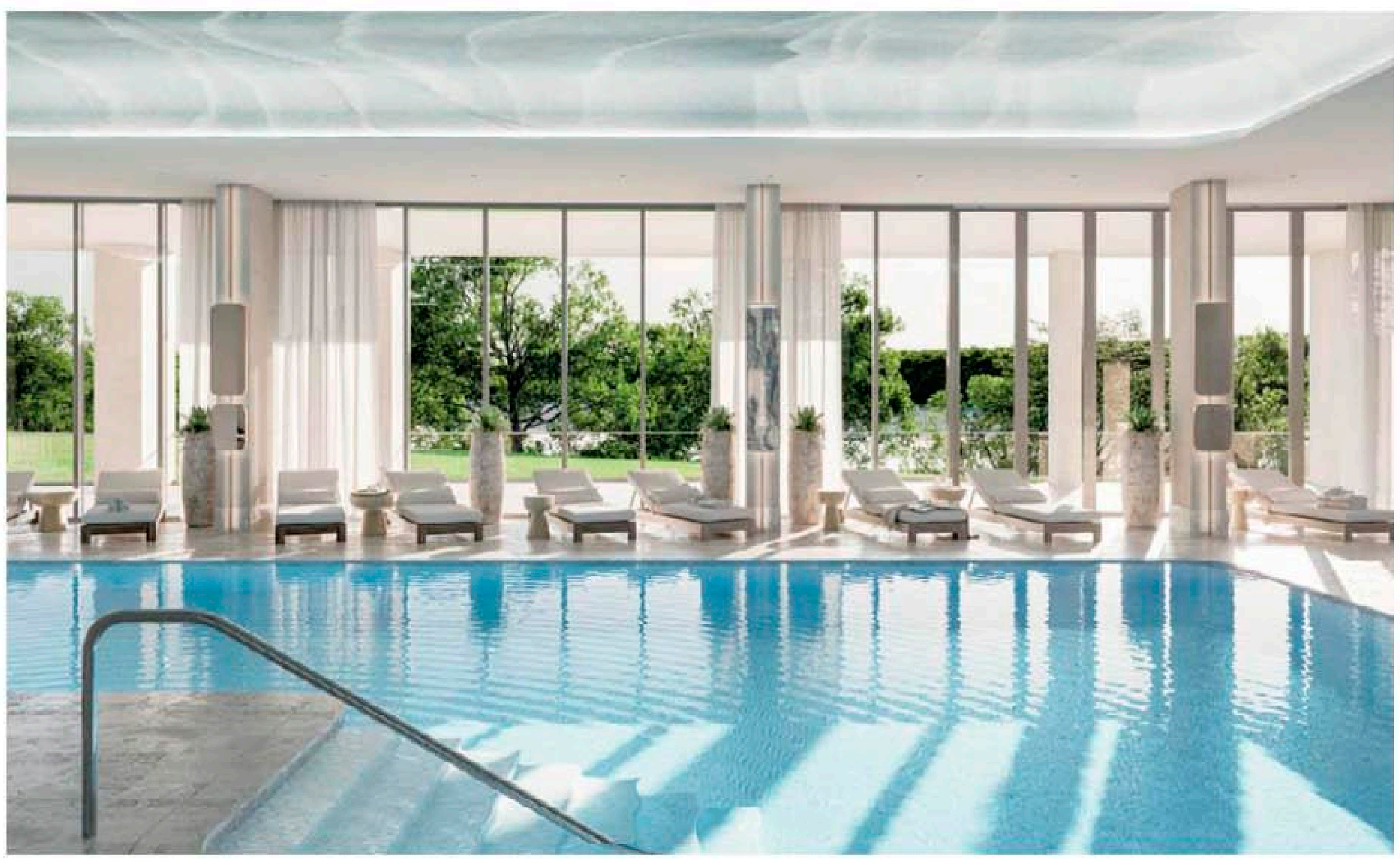
The Founders at River's Edge recognize the very real possibility that they will need care as they grow older. River's Edge campus offers residents full access to rehabilitation, assisted living, memory care, and nursing, should they ever need it. Especially appealing is a Life Care Plan that protects residents from rising healthcare rates with long-term predictable monthly fees, no matter what level of care they need.

"There are three things that draw me to River's Edge: the location of Riverdale, proximity to the city for all the things I like to do, and the access to care," observes W. Lau, Founders Club member.

Currently in pre-sales, River's Edge is hosting regular informational events and webinars. To learn more, visit RiversEdgeNYC.org.

By Derek Dujardin

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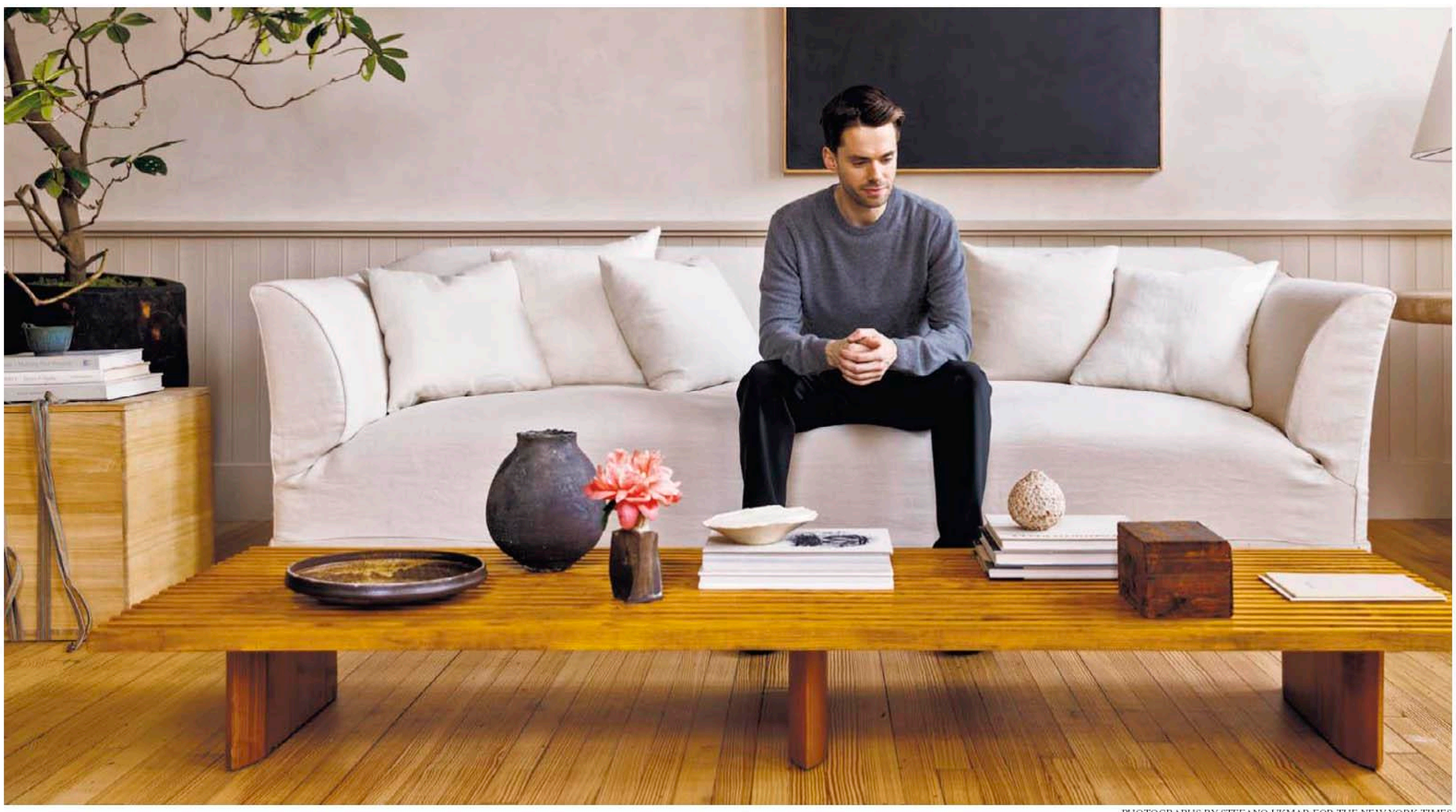
*Also known as a Continuing Care Retirement Community, or CCRC. River's Edge is yet to be constructed. Images are for illustrative purposes, and services are subject to change. Entrance fees start at $588,000, and monthly service fees start at $6,500. For a full disclosure, visit RiversEdge.org.

HOW TO: STYLE A COFFEE TABLE

It Takes a Little Effort to Make It Look Effortless

A designer's step-by-step guide can help you create your own inviting tablescape.

By TIM McKEOUGH



PHOTOGRAPHS BY STEFANO UKMAR FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

You see them on Instagram and in design magazines: those perfectly composed coffee tables that tie a living room together and hint at the fabulous taste of the homeowners.

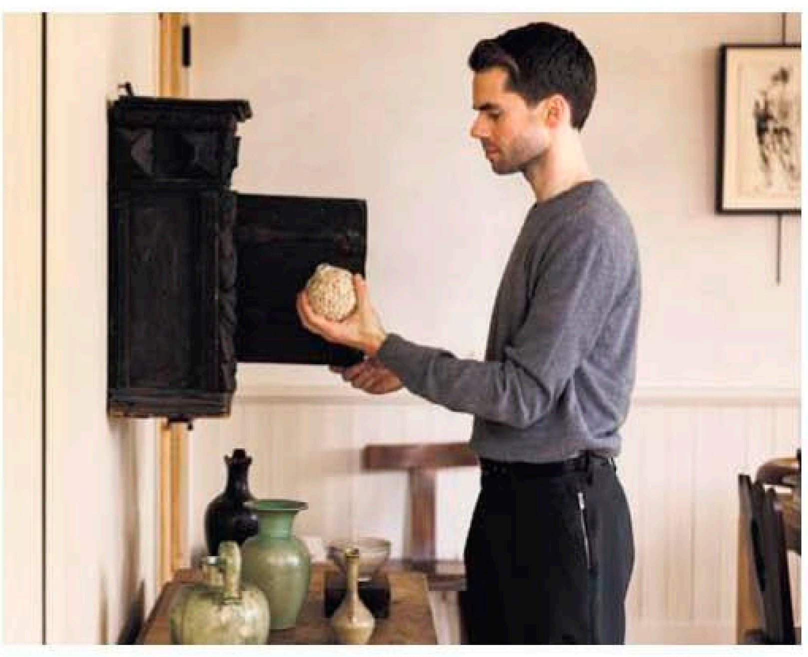
How do those tablescapes come together? How does someone decide which accessories to use? And how can you compose a similar one in your home — without doing too much or too little?

Colin King, an in-demand interiors stylist, welcomed a reporter into his TriBeCa loft to demonstrate how he does it.

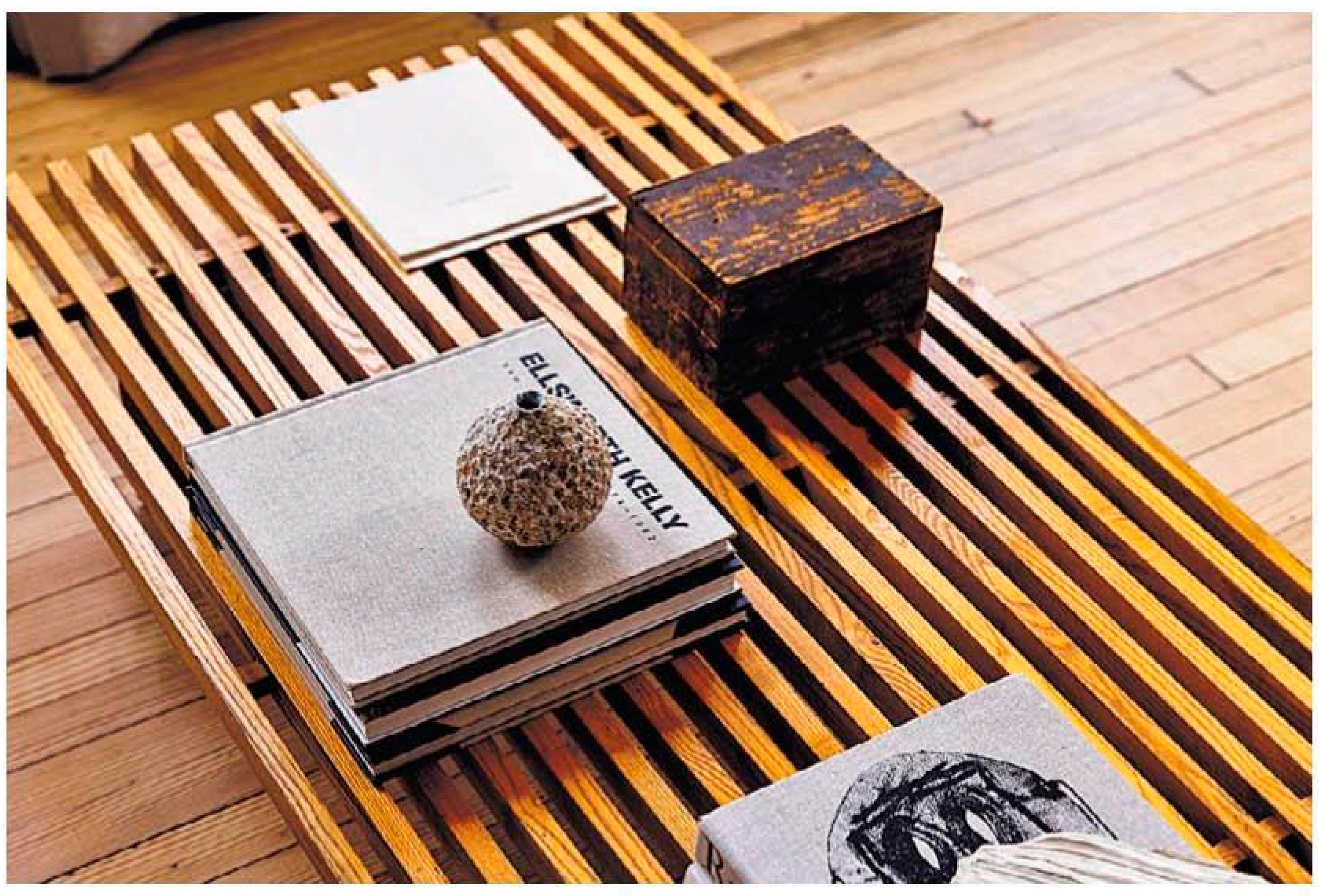
Mr. King — who styles photo shoots for companies like Roman and Williams Guild and Anthropologie, as well as homes for magazines like Architectural Digest — typically comes in after the architects and interior designers are done. That's when he adds the finishing touches that make rooms sing.

"For me, styling is a way of looking," said Mr. King, who published a book called "Arranging Things" with Rizzoli in March. "It's about creating simple vignettes that bring joy to the home. A bowl, a candlestick, a branch — all these things can be so much more than an object when they're arranged."

As he put it concisely, "It's the power of







placement."

When he styles a coffee table, "there's no strict formula, because every coffee table is different and every person's collection is different," he said. "But I can definitely share what has worked for me."

Here are the steps he follows.

Start With a Blank Slate

To style any tabletop, don't add to the things that are already there. Instead, clear everything away.

"I always start clean," Mr. King said. "It can be daunting to do that, but I really like to see the surface I'm working with."

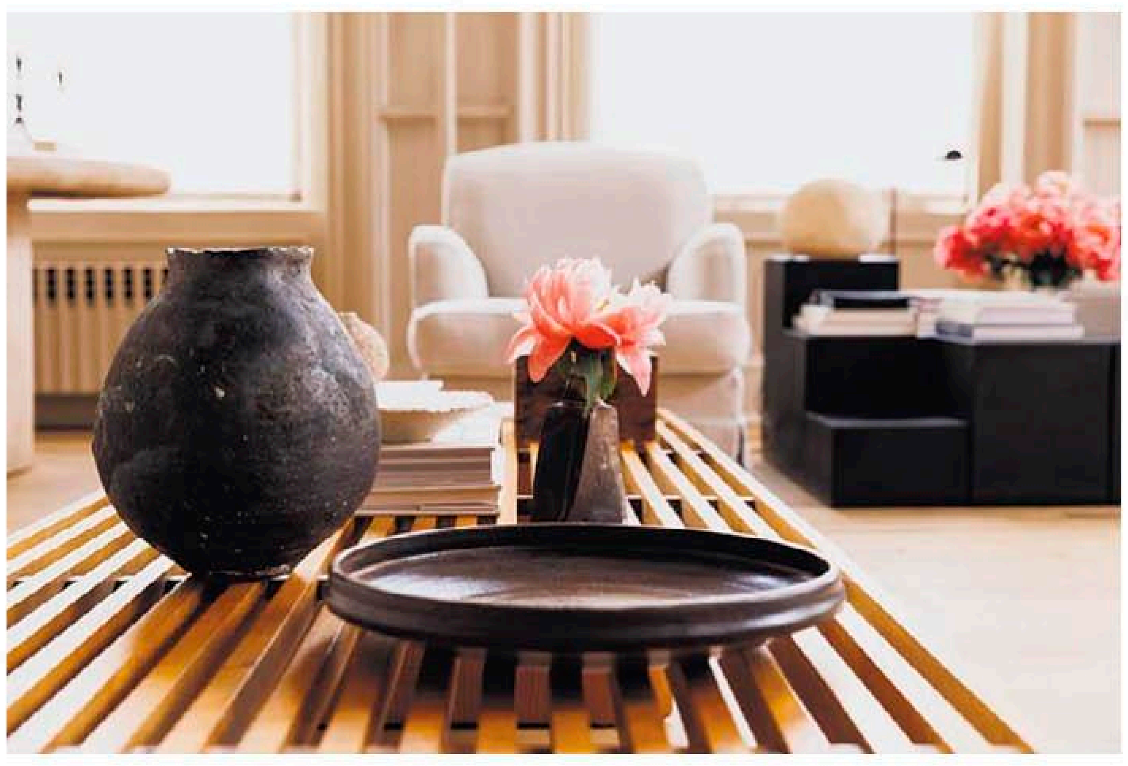
It also helps to ensure the tabletop won't be too crowded. "Negative space is good and gives more opportunity for the objects you do pick to have space around them," he said. "It makes each one more important."

Build Up With Books

Then he adds books. "People get caught up in choosing coffee-table books, like they need a certain size or a certain weight," he said. "But I like to play with scale, and even add pamphlets or smaller books."

Usually, he creates stacks of two or three books, using some as mini-pedestals. "They're like platforms or risers for other objects," he said. "It gives you this topography. I like to have fairly plain covers on top, just because they help frame objects nicely."

He also orients the covers to face the sofas and chairs around the table to encourage people to pick them up.



Collect Sculptural Accessories

Use one or two of the stacks to hold objects with personality: favorite bowls, pieces of sculpture. "Putting things out that you want to look at every day or that evoke some sort of memory is really important," he said.

That includes ceramics made by friends and antiques, but also found objects.

"It can be anything you find around the house or on the street," he said, like an unusual piece of stone or a length of driftwood. "A rock can be just as important as a piece a friend made or a gift I was given."

The designer Colin King, top, looks to create simple vignettes. Center row: He likes to find objects around the house, left, and to combine pieces of similar quality and palettes but different heights, middle; stacks of books can create a topography and serve as mini-pedestals for other objects, right. Mr. King often prefers a single flower over a large arrangement, above.

Three objects of varying heights can have 'a nice dialogue between them.'

Create a Cluster of Objects

For a large table, create a cluster of objects with a similar quality but different heights. "I like to pick three objects of varying heights, so there's a nice dialogue between them," Mr. King said. "I might have books on one end of the table and then my objects on the other."

In his TriBeCa loft, he grouped a tall ceramic pot, a medium-size vase and a low tray with similar colors at one end of the table. "These all have a very similar palette, with browns and blacks," he said. "None were bought or found at the same time, but discovering similarities in objects you have around your house is part of the process."

Plan for Real Life

If your table is cluttered with things like remote controls, phone chargers and keys, make a plan to contain them so they don't detract from your composition.

"Boxes are really great for coffee tables, because you can store things away, out of sight," said Mr. King, who placed an antique tea box on his coffee table. "A lot of people will use a tray, but I don't love that, because you want to cover things up."

Add a Touch of Nature

"I like to add one element of nature as my last thing," he said. "People think it has to be this big arrangement on a coffee table, but I might just add one stem."

Frequently, he chooses a single flower or branch for a vase.

Finish With Photos

If you plan to share your styled table on Instagram, review by taking a snapshot.

"I always take a picture and style through my phone," said Mr. King, who makes small adjustments based on what he sees on his screen. "Until you see it on camera, you don't really see the full composition."

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$1.4 Million



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Philadelphia

WHAT An 1856 house with four bedrooms and three and a half bathrooms, on 0.2 of an acre

HOW MUCH $1.4 million

SIZE 3,394 square feet

PRICE PER SQUARE FOOT $412

SETTING Pastorius Park, a green space that holds a summer concert series, and Wissahickon Valley Park, popular with hikers and equestrians, are nearby. Driving to Wilmington, Del., or Trenton, N.J., takes about 45 minutes.

INDOORS An updated kitchen features custom cabinetry, quartzite counters and a breakfast area with a built-in window seat under more diamond-paned windows. A powder room, a mudroom and a family room with a corner fireplace are off the kitchen. All four bedrooms are on the second floor. The primary bedroom has windows overlooking the surrounding trees and an en suite bathroom with a combined tub and shower. The second bedroom, at the end of the hall, also has an en suite bathroom. The third bedroom, used as a home office, has built-in bookshelves.

OUTDOOR SPACE A partly covered flagstone patio with space for dining is at the back of the house. A few paces beyond are a swimming pool and a pool house.

TAXES $11,899 (estimated)

CONTACT Kim Whetzel, Kurfiss Sotheby's International Realty, 215-870-3138; sothebysrealty.com



AURELIA D'AMORE PHOTOGRAPHY

Glendale, Calif.

WHAT A 1937 Colonial Revival house with three bedrooms and two bathrooms, on 0.2 of an acre

HOW MUCH $1.38 million

SIZE 2,379 square feet

PRICE PER SQUARE FOOT $580

SETTING Glendale Community College and the Glendale Civic Auditorium are about a mile away. Griffith Park is 10 minutes away, as is the Americana at Brand, a shopping and dining complex in central Glendale. Driving to Pasadena or Burbank takes about 15 minutes. Downtown Los Angeles is about 20 minutes away.

INDOORS An exterior staircase leads from the street up to a covered brick porch. Double doors open into a foyer with recently refinished oak floors. Off the living room is a dining room with painted wainscoting and access to a covered terrace. Two bedrooms are in a wing to the left of the foyer. The primary bedroom has a spacious walk-in closet. The third bedroom is on the lower level, reached from a staircase in the foyer. Also on this level is a den with white-painted ceiling beams and a fireplace.

OUTDOOR SPACE The terrace off the dining room and kitchen is surrounded by landscaping. From there, steps lead up to a flat area with a fire pit.

TAXES $17,256 (estimated)

CONTACT Jennifer Parker-Stanton and Jake Lazere, DPP Real Estate, 323-351-3278 or 949-370-4324; dppre.com



HOMEVISIT

Falls Church, Va.

WHAT A 1955 house with four bedrooms and three bathrooms, on 0.4 of an acre

HOW MUCH $1.395 million

SIZE 3,021 square feet

PRICE PER SQUARE FOOT $462

SETTING This house and its neighbors sit on land that developers bought in the mid-20th century. The homes surround Lake Barcroft, a popular spot for fishing and bird-watching, with five beaches reserved for the use of residents.

INDOORS Behind the sitting area is a dining area open to a kitchen with stainless steel appliances and a large center island with a quartz waterfall-style counter. A niche used as a home office is off the dining area. A hallway next to the kitchen leads to the two bedrooms on this level. The primary suite has backyard-facing windows and a bathroom with terrazzo-tile floors. A large family room with a fireplace is on the lower level, along with two bedrooms that share a bathroom.

OUTDOOR SPACE From the back of the main level, a glass door opens to a patio. Nearby, built-in bench seating surrounds a fire pit.

TAXES $19,128 (estimated) and a $34 monthly homeowners association fee

CONTACT Sebastien Courret and Daniel Brewer, Sebastien Daniel Alliance, Compass, 202-386-6330; compass.com

ANGELA SERRATORE

AT HOME WITH
JAMIE BERNSTEIN

Where a Maestro, and Father, Held Court

By JOANNE KAUFMAN

In the early 1960s, after a number of summers renting on Martha's Vineyard, Jamie Bernstein's family bought a vacation home on a wooded hill in West Redding, Conn. There, 9-year-old Jamie and her younger brother, Alexander, devised various games of make-believe, chief among them a fantasy that they lived the same sort of low-key, small-town existence as the characters on their favorite television shows.

It was a testament to the imaginative gifts of children whose actual home was a duplex apartment across the street from Carnegie Hall, and whose father was the celebrated, heat-seeking "West Side Story" composer and New York Philharmonic conductor Leonard Bernstein.

"Once we had this little house, we weren't going to Martha's Vineyard and we were much closer to Manhattan, which was probably way more convenient for my parents," said Ms. Bernstein, 70, the author of the 2018 memoir "Famous Father Girl" and the host of "The NY Phil Story: Made in New York," a new podcast about the Philharmonic produced by the orchestra and the public radio station WQXR. "It meant that we could go there on the weekends during the regular part of the year."

Then, when her sister, Nina, was born in 1962, "we were a family of five," Ms. Bernstein continued. "Plus the nanny and the cook who sometimes came up with us on the weekends. And suddenly the house seemed too small."

A few months later, her mother, Felicia Montealegre Bernstein, an actor and artist, announced that she had just bought a big, new country place. "And I guess I must have asked, 'Well, how much did it cost?'" Ms. Bernstein recalled. "And my mother said: 'Oh, I can't talk about that. It was so expensive I can't even say it out loud.' And my brother and I were saying: 'Oh, come on, how much was it? How much was it?' We badgered her until finally she whispered, 'Eighty.'"

Her children gasped: "Eighty dollars — it cost $80?"

In that same whisper, Mrs. Bernstein corrected them: "Eighty thousand dollars."

What in those days seemed a lordly sum bought a former horse farm with a pool, a tennis court and outbuildings on six and a half acres in Fairfield, Conn. Over the years, additional parcels of woodland — almost 12 acres' worth — were acquired to give the family more privacy and more of an escape from urban cares.

"It was marvelous," Ms. Bernstein said. "We spent many summers here, and almost every weekend during the rest of the year. We all loved it."

After Mr. Bernstein's death in 1990 (Mrs. Bernstein died in 1978), the three children inherited the property. But it is Jamie who is most frequently in residence — pretty much every weekend.

As when her parents were alive, the compound is a gathering spot for birthdays and holidays, and for fiercely contested rounds of anagrams. Lately, it has also served as a set for the upcoming film "Maestro," a portrait of the Bernsteins' complicated marriage directed by and starring Bradley Cooper. (Carey Mulligan plays Felicia.)

"He wanted an authenticity about how he was evoking our dad and his world," Ms. Bernstein said of Mr. Cooper. "He was very curious to come up here and visit, and that's when he decided he wanted to come back and shoot in and around the house. Bradley totally got why this place was so great and how it contains the family DNA."

Indeed, the house, with its graciously proportioned rooms, has barely been altered since the days when it was populated by the senior Bernsteins and their great and good friends — among them, Stephen Sondheim (who did not quite take it in stride when Jamie beat him at anagrams), Jerome Robbins, Mike Nichols and Richard Avedon (who took the picture of Jamie that sits among a clutch of family photos in the living room).

"When we got older, we realized, 'Boy, we had a lot of cool people at our house,'" Ms. Bernstein said. "But when we were little, they were just our parents' friends. To us, they were just Steve and Jerry and Mike and Dick."

It may have been Mr. Sondheim who bought his "West Side Story" collaborator the abacus that sits on a shelf in the dining room — "I can't guarantee that's the case," she said — and it was Mr. Sondheim or maybe Mr. Nichols who bought the fine telescope on the floor nearby.





PHOTOGRAPHS BY ALLEGRA ANDERSON FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES







Top left, Jamie Bernstein, who spends weekends at the Fairfield, Conn., house, top right, that she and her two siblings inherited from their father, the composer Leonard Bernstein; middle left, Ms. Bernstein showing off a photo of herself as a child flanked by her parents; above right, the Steinway baby grand in the living room was a gift to Mr. Bernstein from a childhood piano teacher, who later became his secretary; above, the pool was one of the family's favorite spots.

Name Jamie Bernstein, 70

Occupation Author, filmmaker, podcast host

Taking the cure "We go to the house to be completely relaxed. It's like the antidote to New York life."

"There was a while there when our parents would have these Christmas parties for all their pals," Ms. Bernstein said. "And there was a competitiveness about the present-giving that became so oppressive that my mother said, 'We're not having these parties anymore.'"

The furniture — heavy on rattan, wicker and bamboo — conjures a summer pavilion. So does the dining room, which is anchored by a white-painted table and chairs, and filled with plants. Its entryway, framed by a trellis, adds to the illusion.

"Our mother was a kind of brilliant, instinctive decorator," Ms. Bernstein said. "Every place we lived was elegant but comfortable."

She recalled dinners with her father or mother at the head of the table. Under the carpet was a plug for a bell to summon the help, "and my parents would start disappearing," Ms. Bernstein said. "They would go lower and lower down in their chair, as their foot groped for the buzzer."

The Steinway baby grand in the living room was a gift to Mr. Bernstein from a childhood piano teacher, Helen Coates, who later became his secretary. It was Ms. Coates who determinedly made the winning bid when, in 1949, there was an auction to raise money for the library in Lenox, Mass., and Mr. Bernstein made a painting, supposedly of Salome doing her Dance of the Seven Veils, to aid the cause.

"Helen acquired it, so that for the rest of time nobody would see it," Ms. Bernstein said, pointing to her father's well-meaning work hanging in a corner not far from the piano.

"My father," she added, quite unnecessarily, "was not visually talented."

The recollections that Ms. Bernstein and her siblings have of their childhood at the Fairfield house — family swims; their father carrying a saltshaker to the vegetable garden in the morning to properly season his chosen breakfast; elegant lunches of stuffed tomatoes with homemade mayonnaise on the terrace — have been overlaid by more recent memories. And the next generation, the children of the Bernstein children, now have their own history here and, of course, their own memories.

"That," Ms. Bernstein said, "is the beauty of having a house that stays in the family."

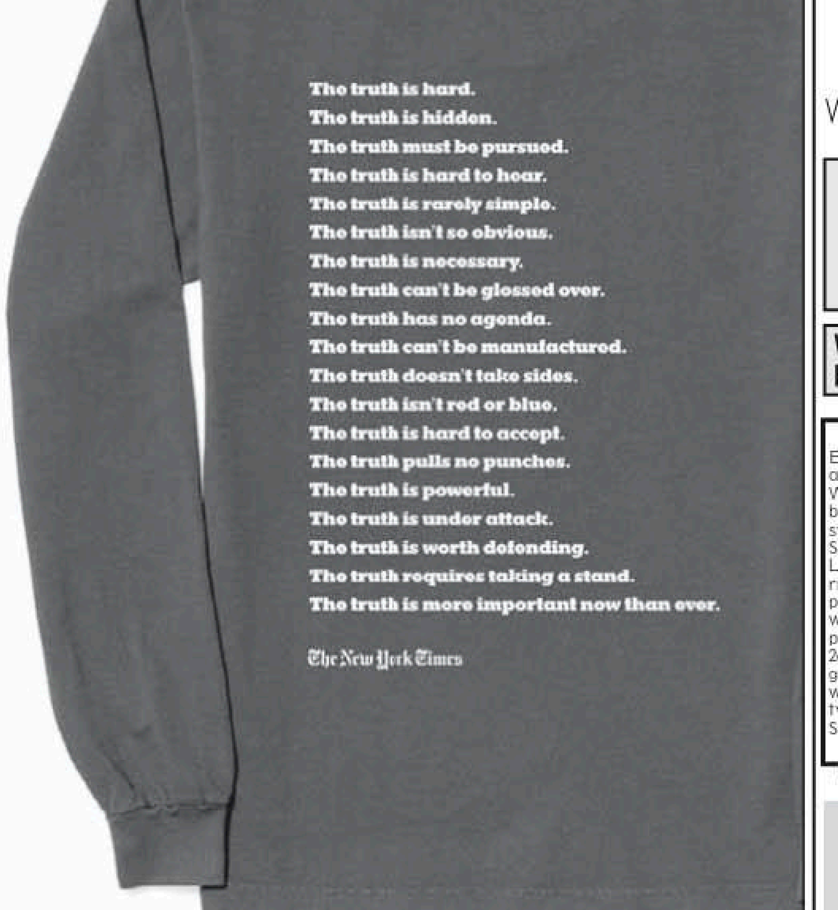
"If some wallpaper is coming unglued, if some fabrics are fading, if some drawer fronts are hanging by a thread and cabinets are stuffed with baffling detritus — well, it's all part of the family DNA."

"We don't fix things," Ms. Bernstein conceded. "There is a distinct element of funk in this house now. It's kind of funky. But we're kind of funky, too."

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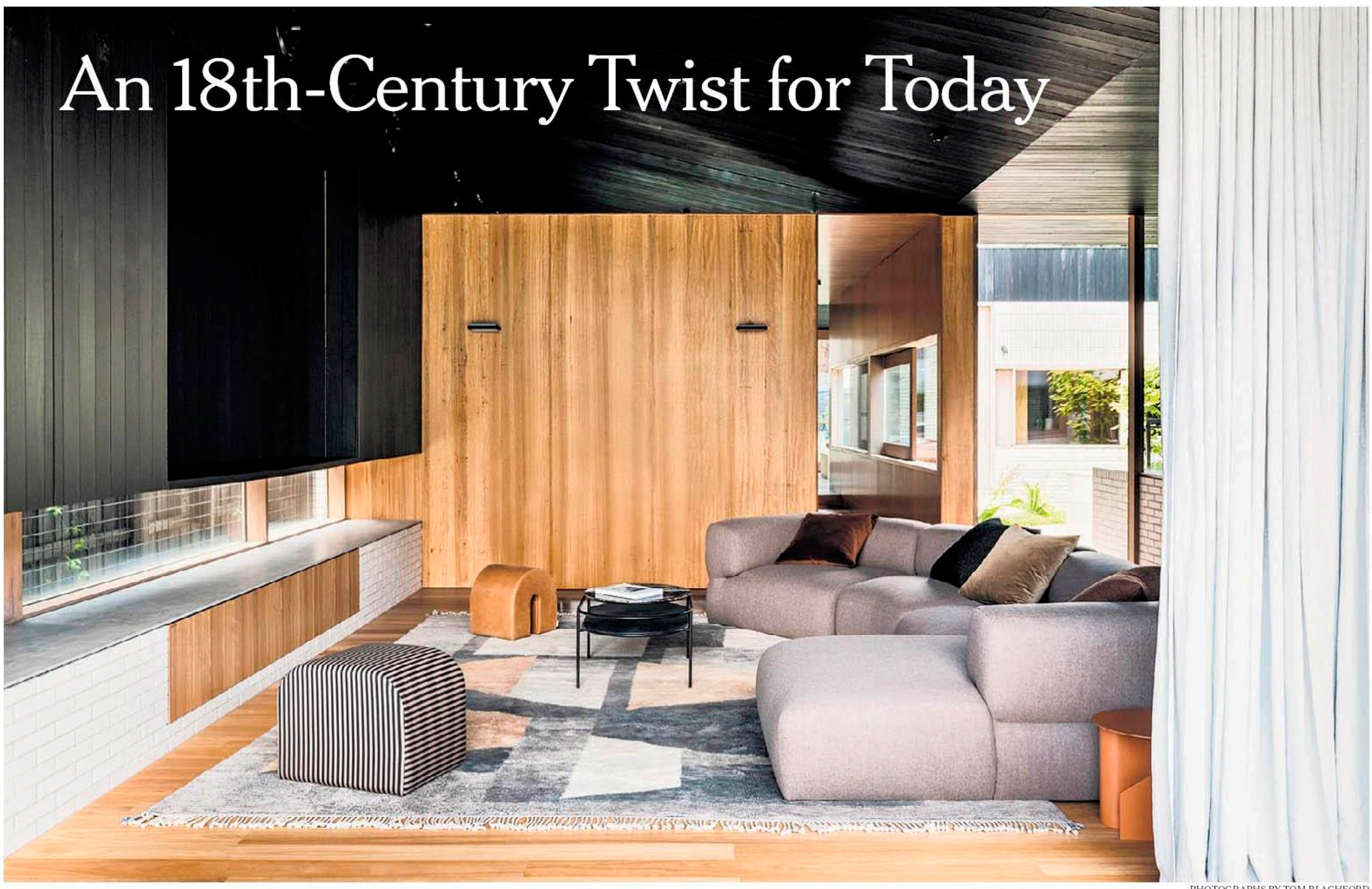
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An 18th-Century Twist for Today



PHOTOGRAPHS BY TOM BLACHFORD

Why would a modernist house in a Melbourne suburb need an inverted ha-ha? (A what?)

By TIM McKEOUGH

As the real estate market in Melbourne, Australia, sizzled and home prices surged in 2017, Chris Calleja and Joy Suemag were scrambling to find a larger house for their young family.

"Property was hot, so you had to be brave and go in and bid at auction," said Mr. Calleja, 47, who works in finance at the Ford Motor Company. "You're going to all these places and losing, losing, losing."

So when he and Ms. Suemag, also 47 and a marketing and sales professional at Ford, found a 1950s house in the Melbourne suburb of Alphington, which they liked for its proximity to work, school, stores and restaurants, they didn't hesitate — although it was far from perfect.

"It was run-down and would have been cheaper to demolish than fix up," Mr. Calleja said. "We said, 'Let's buy it and tear it down.'"

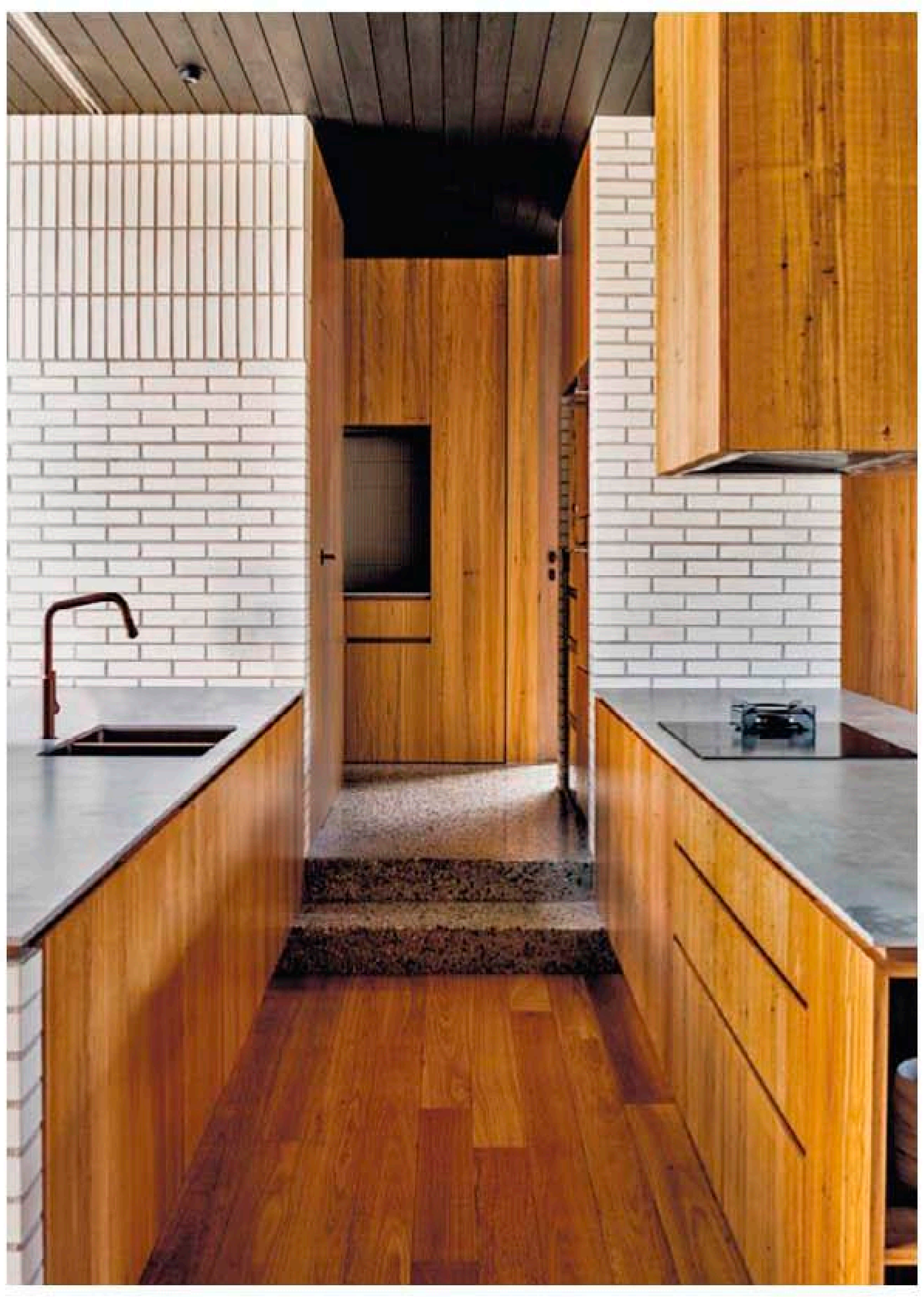
At least, that was the plan. After striking a deal to buy the house for 1.7 million Australian dollars (about $1.1 million), they and their children — Mali, now 11, and Mark, 9 — moved in temporarily and began looking for an architect.

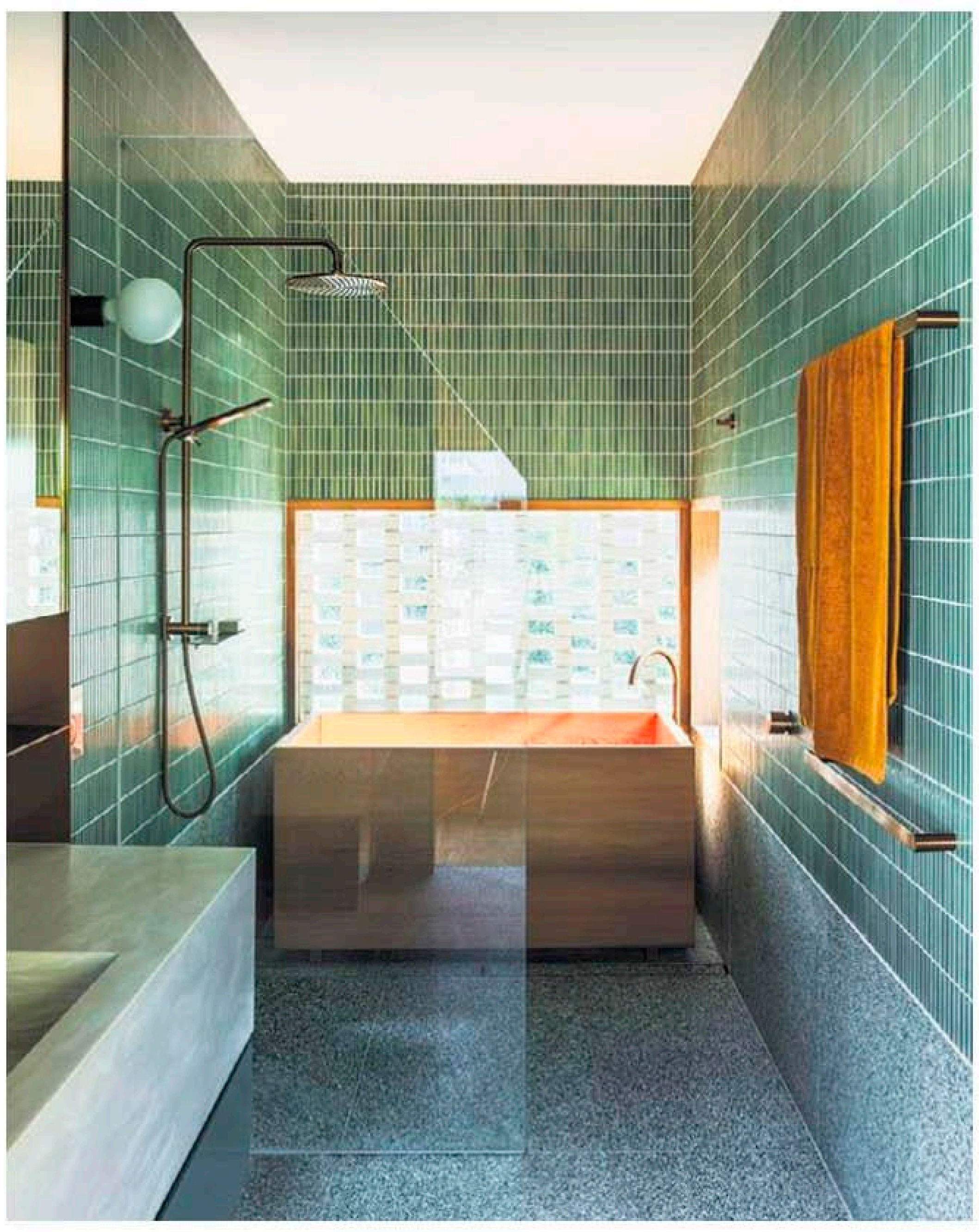
Once they had unpacked, they noticed one big problem right away, beyond the poor insulation and the possums living in the roof: The primary living spaces in the back of the house and the backyard were dark, while the front of the house got sun all day long.

"We wanted to have a lot of light, and in Australia that means a lot of northern sun," Mr. Calleja said. "But if you've got street



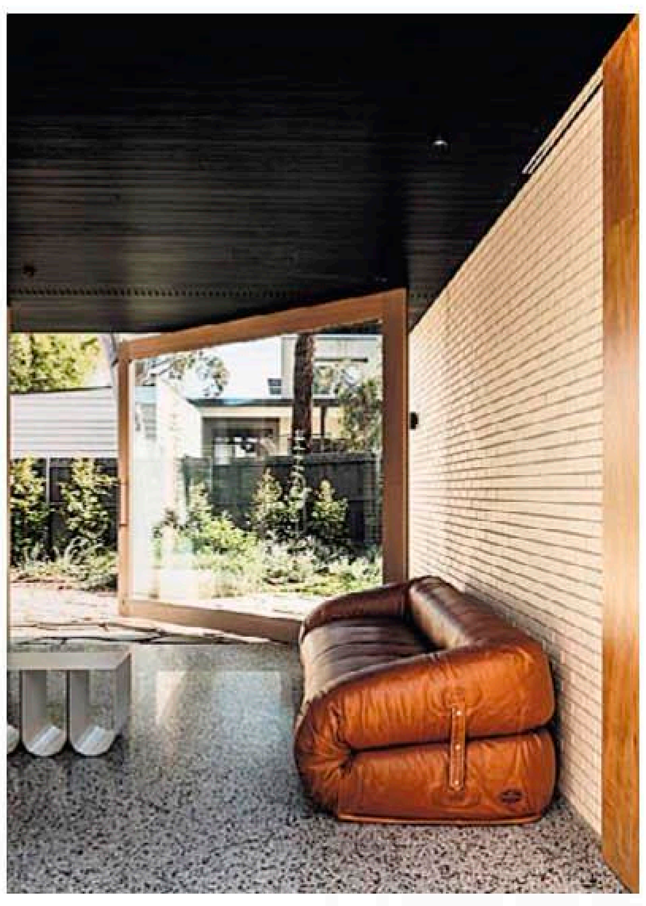
ASANKA BRENDON RATNAYAKE FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES





Above, inside the new home of Chris Calleja and Joy Suemag. Left center, the kitchen is ample. Near left, a spacious shower and bath. Below, the architects made the front yard the home's primary outdoor space but kept it private by building a landscaped earthen mound along the sidewalk; that's the ha-ha. Bottom, the new house cost roughly $990,000. Far left, from top: Mr. Calleja and Ms. Suemag faced a hot real estate market; the house has 2,750 square feet; a sitting room at the back of the house has a huge glass pivot door that opens to the backyard.









frontage on the north and want to have all your windows there, you have privacy concerns."

Creating an internal courtyard was one possible solution. Searching online, the couple found FIGR, a Melbourne architecture studio that had recently designed a striking courtyard house nearby.

When Adi Atic and Michael Artemenko, the founders of FIGR, visited the 0.16-acre lot, they agreed that building a house with a courtyard would help. But they also thought they could do better than simply replace the old house with a new one. Looking at how the backyard was hemmed in by other houses, Mr. Artemenko said, the architects asked themselves, "Why don't we flip this on its head and do the front yard as the backyard?"

By pushing the new house as far back as the lot-line setback requirement would allow, they could create a more generous, light-filled yard in front. But privacy would still be an issue, and neither the owners nor their architects wanted to put up a big fence.

That's when Mr. Atic and Mr. Artemenko remembered learning about the concept of a ha-ha in architecture school: a sunken fence used in 18th-century landscapes that was concealed from view. "Basically, it looks like a ditch, and it prevented livestock from going in the garden area," Mr. Atic said.

The architects turned this idea on its head, too: Rather than digging a ditch, they would build a landscaped earthen mound near the sidewalk, blocking sightlines from the street and creating a garden-like feeling in the yard.

For the house, they designed a 2,750-square-foot, single-story structure that runs in a circle around a central courtyard and oversize glass doors that open entire walls to the outdoors. For cladding, they chose slender white brick and charred silvertop ash that run from the exterior into interior rooms, reinforcing the sense of indoor-outdoor living.

Once the plans were set, the family moved into a rental down the street as demolition of the old house and construction of the new one began in July 2020. They had already ordered most of their building materials at the beginning of the pandemic, before supply-chain issues snarled other construction projects, so their new home was complete in November 2021 at a cost of about 1.5 million Australian dollars (about $990,000).

The old dwelling had poor insulation and possums in the roof.

The kitchen, dining area and living room are at the front of the house, taking advantage of the northern light and views of the expanded front garden. In the middle of the house are two bedrooms for the children on one side of the courtyard and a home office on the other. The primary bedroom is at the back, along with an additional sitting room and a gym; all have views of the rear garden, where the old backyard used to be.

"When you're in this property, you feel very secluded; you feel like you're in the country," Mr. Atic said. "You see greenery everywhere, even though you're five minutes from the city."

The windows around the courtyard help the family stay connected. "We can see the kids from the kitchen, through the courtyard," Ms. Suemag said, so they don't need to call out to find each other. "That's probably my favorite thing."

The reimagined front yard has also been embraced by the family — including their golden Labrador, Mellow, who keeps her distance from the earthen mound. "She doesn't climb the ha-ha," Mr. Calleja said. "She did once, when it was being constructed, but we arranged the boulders so she couldn't."

Much like the 18th-century ha-ha that kept farm animals where they were supposed to be, this 21st-century version has proved useful for restraining an urban pet. "It does the job," Mr. Calleja said.

IN THE GARDEN

Patience Is the Right Approach to Compost

Don't get hung up on how long it should take or how many citrus peels are too many.

By MARGARET ROACH

When it comes to composting, where things break down — or don't — is often where we get in our own way. We make the whole process too hard by fixating on details instead of the big picture.

Yes, there are lists and rules that it's tempting to get attached to: the precise ratio of high-carbon ingredients (often called "browns") to high-nitrogen ones ("greens"), or achieving the ideal temperature for peak activity by particular bacteria and other decomposer organisms. Commercial composting operations rely on those rules, and the science behind them, to produce material that is consistent and meets regulatory guidelines.

We backyard composters can go a little easier on ourselves and still have great results, producing soil-improving bounty from our organic waste. The main mantra: Just do it.

"Become comfortable with decomposition as a natural act, one that will take place whether you are involved or not," said Annie Novak, the manager of the Edible Academy at New York Botanical Garden. Ms. Novak, who is also the founder and director of Growing Chefs, a field-to-fork food-education program, lives in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, where she composts in her backyard, too.

Make like nature, the experts advise us: Pile up the organic matter and let time pass. Getting hung up on how long the process should take from start to finish or how many citrus peels are too many to add to the heap is going to make it all feel like too much.

"My rule is: Don't worry about it," said Cary Oshins, a longtime backyard composter who retired last month as the associate director of the U.S. Composting Council, an industry group. His current piles are in Troy, N.Y.

"Compost happens," he said.

Instead of worrying about whether you're following all the rules, stick to some common-sense guidelines and have the right tools on hand. Ms. Novak, Mr. Oshins and others who have taught gardeners how to compost offered some advice.



BRYAN GARDNER

Many gardeners with lots of organic material to process use a multi-bin system, which allows them to have several piles at various stages of decomposition.

One Role Model: A Wrung-Out Sponge

You've tackled the spring cleanup to get the garden off to a fresh start. But were you as conscious about what kind of start all of that incoming material means on the receiving end — in the compost heap, bin or tumbler?

Any kind of organic matter will break down in time, but decomposition is fostered most effectively — and more quickly — when basic conditions are present. The pile should never be too moist or too dry, for example.

"You're going for the moisture content of a wrung-out sponge," Mr. Oshins said. "Not so wet that water runs down your hand if you squeeze it, but so you can feel the moisture — that it's not dusty and dry."

Also: Without worrying about the exact brown-to-green proportions, try to consciously incorporate both elements as you feed the pile. Anyone who has heaped up lawn clippings and then watched what happens knows the slimy, sloppy, smelly mess that results when you have too much green. Carbon-rich material, by comparison, tends to be drier and coarser, and slower to break down.

For better results, think about being more strategic when you're gathering materials during future cleanups, especially in the fall, said Charles Dowding, an English market grower and the author of "No Dig: Nurture Your Soil to Grow Better Vegetables With Low Effort." The popular organic, no-till practices he teaches rely on an annual top dressing of compost to keep the soil in prime condition.

Set aside some "browns" as you collect them to use during peak "greens" months in the active growing season, he suggested, when a lot of incoming organic matter is nitrogen-rich and will need balancing out. Stockpile small, twiggy trimmings, wood chips and dry leaves or straw for later duty. Cardboard and paper are good, too, but keep them dry until you're ready to use them.

When you add material, he advised, think in layers, rather than piling on too much of any one element, brown or green.

Mr. Dowding, who uses a multi-bin composting system, likes to keep the material roughly flat-topped — not mountain-shaped, the way an open compost heap is inclined to become. It makes sense that it would be easier to layer alternating ingredients onto a somewhat level pile, and to keep the pile evenly moist.

And think loft, Mr. Oshins said: "If you're a home composter, it's really fluffiness you aim for. Do you have enough browns in there? And do you have enough food for the microbes to eat?"

Our role as composters is to be "microbe wranglers," he said, "providing proper food and shelter for their micro-herd."



CHARLES DOWDING



BRYAN GARDNER

Far left, a three-sided wood bin, piled high with layers of brown compost. Left, small home compost piles often don't have enough mass to heat up, so Daryl Beyers, who has taught gardening fundamentals at New York Botanical Garden for over a decade, composts in three adjacent pits, repeatedly layering elements of "brown, green, soil" until each pile is about a foot above grade.

More Than One Heap Per Customer

The process of decomposition generates heat. In peak activity, commercial piles may cook along at 140 degrees or so. But "many home composting systems don't have sufficient mass to reach temperatures" — between 90 and 140 degrees — "that really break stuff down effectively," said Daryl Beyers, the author of "The New Gardener's Handbook: Everything You Need to Know to Grow a Beautiful and Bountiful Garden."

That is one reason that Mr. Beyers, who has taught the fundamentals of gardening at New York Botanical Garden for more than a decade, composts in three adjacent trenches, or pits, about 4 by 4 feet and 2 feet deep. Into them, he repeatedly layers "brown, green, soil" — the excavated soil he has reserved alongside the pit — until one pile is about a foot above grade. Then he starts filling up the next one.

Think in layers rather than piling on too much of any one element.

"If you bury anything, it will rot," he said — and, aesthetically, sunken heaps may blend into the landscape better than big, aboveground piles.

At home, and for his clients, he uses multiple composting stations, each with its own purpose.

A small, dual-chamber tumbler near the house makes an easy destination for kitchen scraps, which he mixes with the "brown" of shredded household paper or trimmings from adjacent garden beds. Bins or pits in the vegetable garden will be of service where the most material is usually generated. And an out-of-the-way pile can accommodate heavier yard debris that may take a couple of years to break down.



MARGARET ROACH

Mixing vs. Turning

More mass can make for more heat and somewhat faster decomposition, but also more work.

"The bigger the pile, the more difficult it can get to aerate," Ms. Novak said. "And an untended pile with too much wet, decomposing organic material can become anaerobic quickly."

To make a hospitable environment for the hard-working microorganisms that do much of the decomposing, there is a balancing act needed between water and oxygen.

"Too much moisture, and the microbes don't have enough air," Mr. Oshins said. "Too little, and they don't thrive."

The usual prescription: Turn the heap. Mr. Dowding recommends doing that once a year. But this can be another point where home composters become overwhelmed.

"I think the operative word here is mixing more than turning," Mr. Oshins said.



CARY OSHINS

Ms. Novak's favorite tool is a workaround to full-on turning. She calls the Tumbleweed Compost Aerator a "compost corkscrew" that "makes it easy to pop out big plugs of material and rotate the so-called browns and greens."

While bending from the knees, she said, "rotate it into the pile — clockwise and then counterclockwise — and then pop it up like opening champagne." Repeat the motion in other spots to "pull airspace into the pile," she added.

Mr. Oshin's mixing helpers: mail-order red wiggler worms (Eisenia fetida). "Worms do a great job at stirring things up," he said. "They are much better turners than I am."

But even with their help, certain bits may not break down. Mr. Oshins recently constructed a screen that fits over a wheelbarrow to sift his compost, for whenever he wants finer, more evenly textured material.



CARY OSHINS

Clockwise from above: a screen built by Cary Oshins that fits above a wheelbarrow to sift his compost; an enclosed wire bin, which keeps large animals like raccoons out; and a Tumbleweed Compost Aerator.

Outsmarting Hungry Animals

One more moment of reckoning that may put off home composters: when animals are attracted to the compost, especially to food waste.

This is another reason that tumblers, which prevent access, are great for kitchen scraps.

It also reinforces the importance of burying such waste in the heap, rather than tossing it on top. When you're adding fresh scraps, use a garden fork to dig a hole to put them in. Then stir them a bit into the surrounding active compost before covering the stash.

The penlike wire bin that Mr. Oshins puts food waste in doesn't keep rodents out, but it does exclude large animals like raccoons. He fashioned the four-foot-diameter enclosure and its lid from wire fencing.

Ms. Novak has a tactic that outsmarts even the little guys.

"I will often let tastier leftovers break down in sealed five-gallon containers first before adding them to the compost," she said. "Left alone, they ferment a bit into less-appetizing material — easily added to the compost pile, where it quickly 'sweetens' into good organic matter content."

With the possible exception of diseased tomato plants, which go into the burn pile or the trash, Ms. Novak composts everything, she said: "For me, if it's carbon-based, it's going in the compost. That's what happens when it's left alone in real life, so why not in my compost pile?"

Weeks pass, and then months, and we ask anxiously: Is it compost yet? There is no precise timeline, because weather, seasonal temperature differences and the particular mix and volume of ingredients all affect decomposition rates.

It could be eight months or a couple of years, but it's always worth waiting.







PHOTOGRAPHS BY LEIGH VOGEL FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Holly Harper, above left, and Herrin Hopper are longtime friends who refer to each other as platonic spouses. Living in a "mommune" together, said Ms. Hopper, with her 15-year-old daughter, center, has made balancing the duties of motherhood and career infinitely easier. "We want our kids to be safe, and we want the support we deserve as humans," said Ms. Harper, right, with her 10-year-old daughter in the "fairy garden" of their fourplex in Takoma Park, Md.

'Mommunes': Single Mothers Join Forces

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mothers, particularly those in nonwhite communities, have been house-sharing for centuries. But the pandemic, along with a rising number of white, non-Hispanic single-mother households in the United States, has put a new spotlight on the make-your-own-family structure. "In Latino cultures, there's this idea of a co-mother — a person who supports you and helps you raise your children," said Grace Bastidas, editor in chief of Parents magazine. "At the height of the pandemic, we all started creating these pods of people, so this is just another iteration of that type of partnership."

Ms. Bastidas grew up in a mommune, raised alongside her sister and cousin in one house by her mother and her aunt, both of them unmarried and without partners. "We were told it takes a village, but it's not always there, and single moms especially are juggling rising costs of living and reduced child care options," she said. "This is part of the larger trend of parents stretching traditional boundaries of what a family is, and taking matters into their own hands to find creative solutions."

Nearly 80 percent of single-parent families in the United States are headed by single mothers, according to the Census Bureau, and academic research has shown

'We were told it takes a village, but it's not always there.'

that these units are far more likely to experience poverty, psychological distress, low self-esteem and a lack of emotional support. Single motherhood, said Naomi Torres-Mackie, a clinical psychologist focusing on women's mental health in New York City, often leads to role strain — the stress that comes when a person cannot fulfill the multitude of responsibilities required by his or her societal role. "Sharing resources is key, and can be an antidote to not just role strain, but social isolation and stigma," she said.

In April 2020, with pandemic lockdowns in full force, the longtime friends Holly Harper, a marketing executive, and Herrin Hopper, a lawyer, were both newly divorced and managing remote work and their children's virtual school from tiny apartments in Washington. Going it alone was feeling like an increasingly uphill battle. So they changed course, pooled their finances and bought a home to share instead.

For Ms. Hopper, 46, a mommune offered a way to share the heavy burden of juggling home and career without a romantic partner, as well as a path toward homeownership post-divorce. "Both Holly and I have always been voyeurs when it comes to real estate, and we were like, why not?" she said. Sharing a home, Ms. Harper added, offers single mothers a key thing that is often taken away when their relationships fall apart — economic mobility.

"We want our kids to be safe, and we want the support we deserve as humans," she said. "The economic linchpin of that is real estate. The most logical thing in the world is to share."

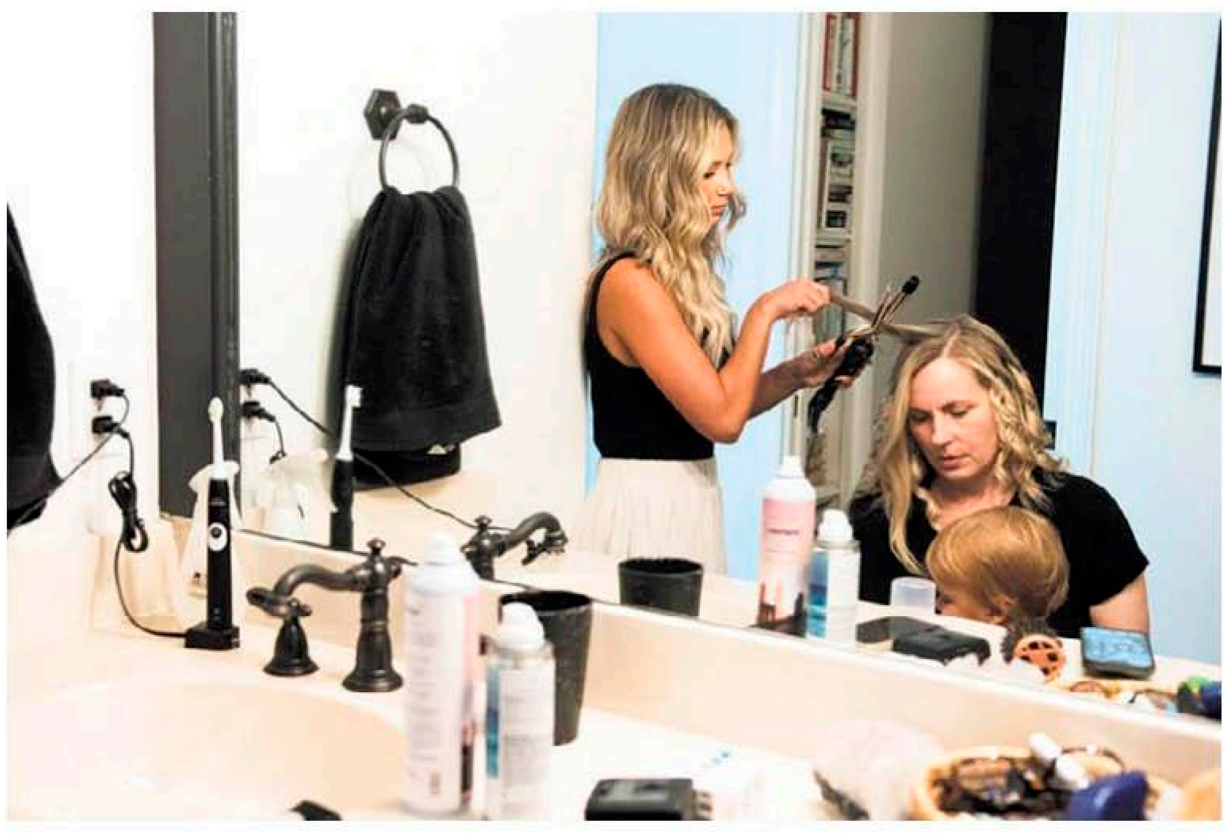
The duo evenly split the $835,000 cost for a sage-green fourplex in a Washington suburb, Takoma Park, Md., painting the interior walls in jewel tones and christening it the "Siren House." Ms. Hopper lives with her 10-year-old son and 15-year-old daughter in a three-bedroom unit on the second floor.

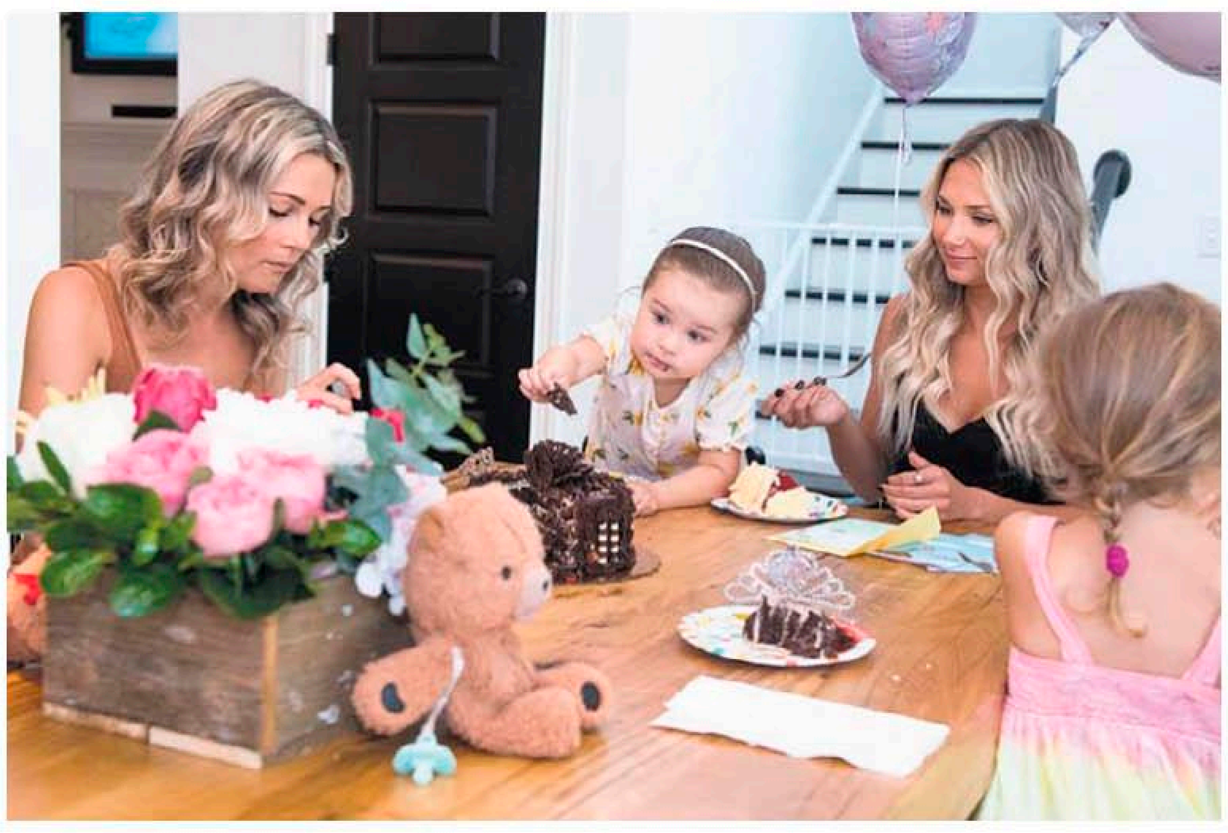
Her home is colorful and chaotic, its walls filled with artwork and photography and its rooms stuffed with knickknacks and bright furniture. Ms. Harper lives on the first floor with her 10-year-old daughter in their own three-bedroom unit, which is tidy and Zen. Six months after moving in, the pair invited two other women, including another mother with two children, to take the basement and attic units of the home and join them in their communal experiment.

They have since bought a second three-unit building nearby with the aim of renting it to other single parents with a purchasing model that can help them build equity after divorce. Ms. Harper dreams of expanding



PHOTOGRAPHS BY AGNES LOPEZ FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES





Top, single mothers are teaming up to share the load. Above right, Kristin Batykefer, left, and Tessa Gilder decided to live together with their families after both got divorced in the same year. In the house they share in Florida with friends — four adults and three children — the women cook for each other, share child care duties and even do each other's hair.

the model to single parents in other cities.

"You can do this anywhere," she said. "It's not gendered and it's not political. It's literally taking the existing structure and using it to your advantage."

BUT THE CO-LIVING PARTNERS, who call themselves platonic spouses, have had their ups and downs. A year after moving into the Siren House, the women opened a drinks and snack shop that failed. Their two new tenants, one of whom had never dated women before, fell in love with each other and eventually moved out. Ms. Hopper and Ms. Harper still live in the home, but they now rent the basement unit to a gay man, and are keeping the upstairs unit vacant as a shared space for homework, dance parties and quiet time.

Despite the hiccups, they said they were proud of what they had done: throwing the rule book for single motherhood out of the window.

"In the patriarchal, heteronormative story, you get divorced and stay in the house, or you buy another home, and you live this isolated life where you're supposed to date and fall in love again and get married or blend families," Ms. Hopper said. "It seems like it's always a binary, and we have dispelled this myth that there's only one path forward."

The path is growing more organized and being formalized. Groups are now offering shared living arrangements for single parents.

Carmel Boss, a mommune veteran who said she coined the term "mommune" years before it entered the social media lexicon, started CoAbode, a house-sharing platform for single mothers, as a nonprofit after her divorce 20 years ago. At the time, she had just become a single mother to a 7-year-old son, and decided to invite another single mother in Los Angeles to live with her. She realized, however, that there was no easy resource for single mothers in seeking communal housing to find one another, and an idea was born.

At first, CoAbode was like a Craigslist for mothers, she said. But in 2016 she converted it into a for-profit business, and now estimates that 300,000 single mothers have created profiles for home-share matches on her site.

"We're like an online village, except the women are meeting in person," said Ms. Boss, 69.

This year, Commune, a residential housing developer based in France, will open a development for single-parent households in the Paris suburbs with space for 14 families. A second project will open at the end of the year in the north of France, with space for 28 families. Two-bedroom units with a kitchenette will start at 1,900 euros (about $2,075) a month, said Tara Heuzé-Sarmini, Commune's Paris-born co-founder. The company, Ms. Heuzé-Sarmini said, is filling a gap.

"I was not interested in creating co-living spaces for yuppies living in Berlin," she said. "The elephant in the room was the demographics of single parents, whose needs are completely unaddressed by the market."

The need is worldwide. Anna Dillon, a 42-year-old Irish mother living in Abu Dhabi, decided to create a mommune in 2021 with Emily Winchip, 40, an American. Both are education professors.

Ms. Dillon has been in the United Arab Emirates since 2013 but divorced her husband in 2019. In the first year of the pandemic, she said, the isolation was crushing, and caring for her two children — a daughter, 12, and a son, 13 — was challenging while juggling a social life and a full-time job.

Ms. Winchip, her colleague, was facing a similar struggle. She had lived in the Middle East for 13 years, but when the pandemic hit, she was newly separated and alone with her son, now 12.

"I told her I wished we all lived in a place where the kids could play together," Ms. Winchip said.

In September 2021, they began renting a three-bedroom apartment in a gated community, splitting the rent evenly and taking turns cooking and watching the other's kids. The arrangement isn't forever — Ms. Winchip and Ms. Dillon both have new partners, and plan to eventually move out and start new lives with them — but after living through a pandemic in a foreign country together, they say their partnership has been essential.

"I wish we had done it about two years earlier," Ms. Dillon said.

BACK IN FLORIDA, Ms. Gilder and Ms. Batykefer also don't plan on staying in that four-bedroom house in the Jacksonville area forever. They hope to buy and remodel a fixer-upper of their own in the coming year, and to allay costs, they've signed a deal with a television producer who believes the process of renovating their new mommune could make for entertaining reality television.

But whether or not those small-screen dreams come to fruition, Ms. Batykefer said the little community she had built in her current house had helped her not just recover from heartbreak, but also gave her peace of mind. She said she was more present and focused as a mother.

"When I had to leave my husband, all I could think about was how I now had to figure out how to do everything on my own — buy a house on my own, pay my bills on my own and raise my child on my own," said Ms. Batykefer, whose divorce was made final in February and now splits custody with her former husband. "I never thought about finding another single mother to live with and do it together. We just fell into it. But now, it's like, why isn't it more common for us to join forces?"



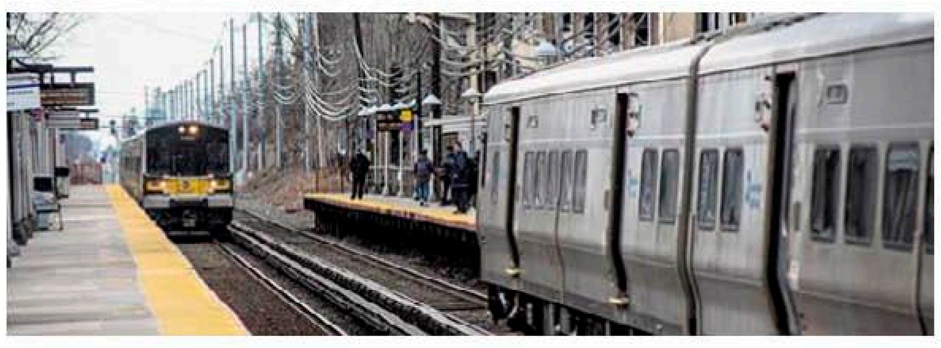
PHILIP CHEUNG FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Carmel Boss started CoAbode, a house-sharing platform for single mothers, as a nonprofit after her divorce 20 years ago. She said she was the first to coin the term "mommune."

2 SUNDAY ROUTINE
Hockey and no caffeine for a filmmaking center's leader.

3 BIG CITY
Ginia Bellafante on housing density in the suburbs.





4 IN THE DIARY
Overripe tomatoes, a name mistake and a much-loved painting at the Met.

NEW YORK CITY

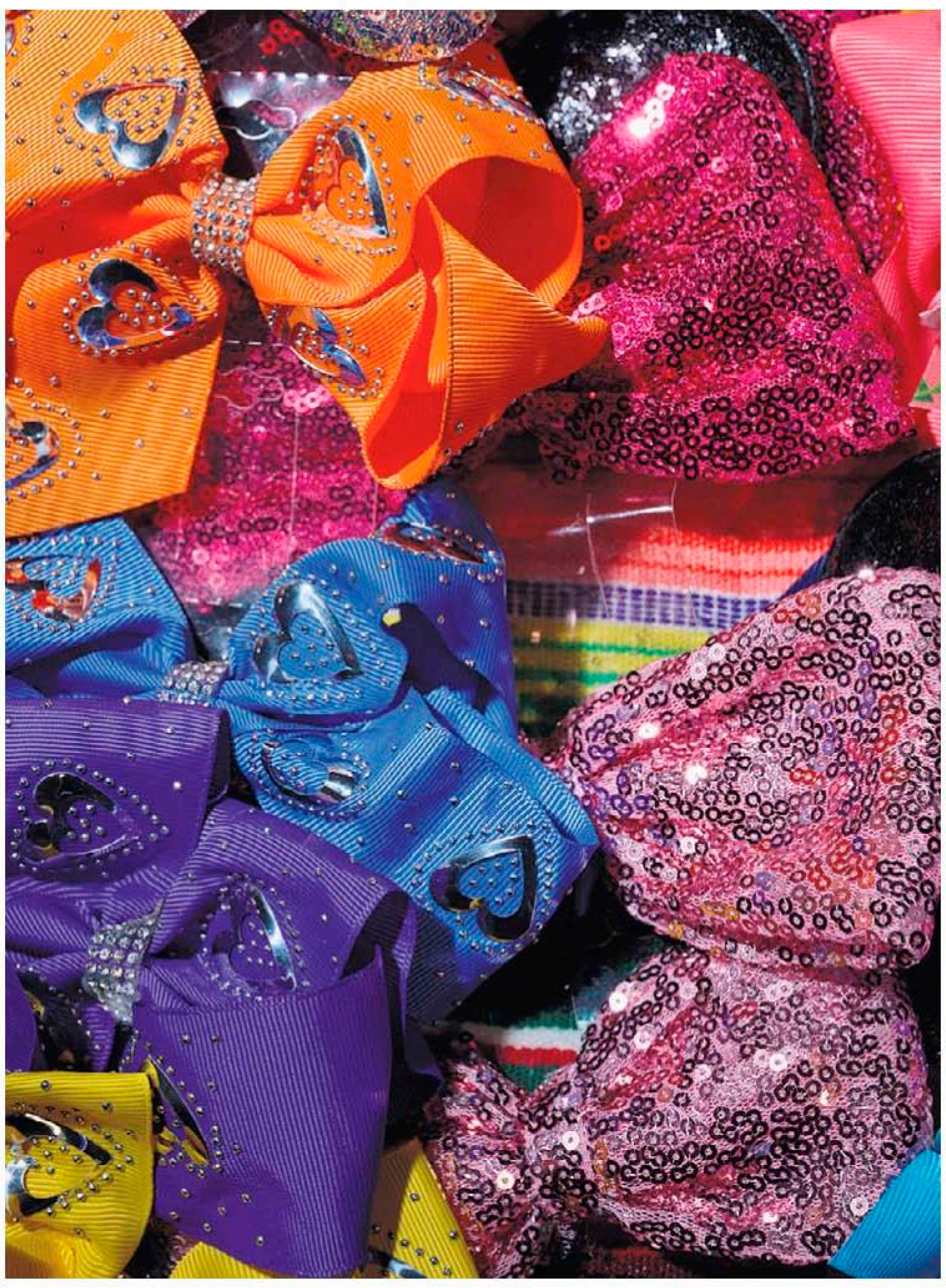
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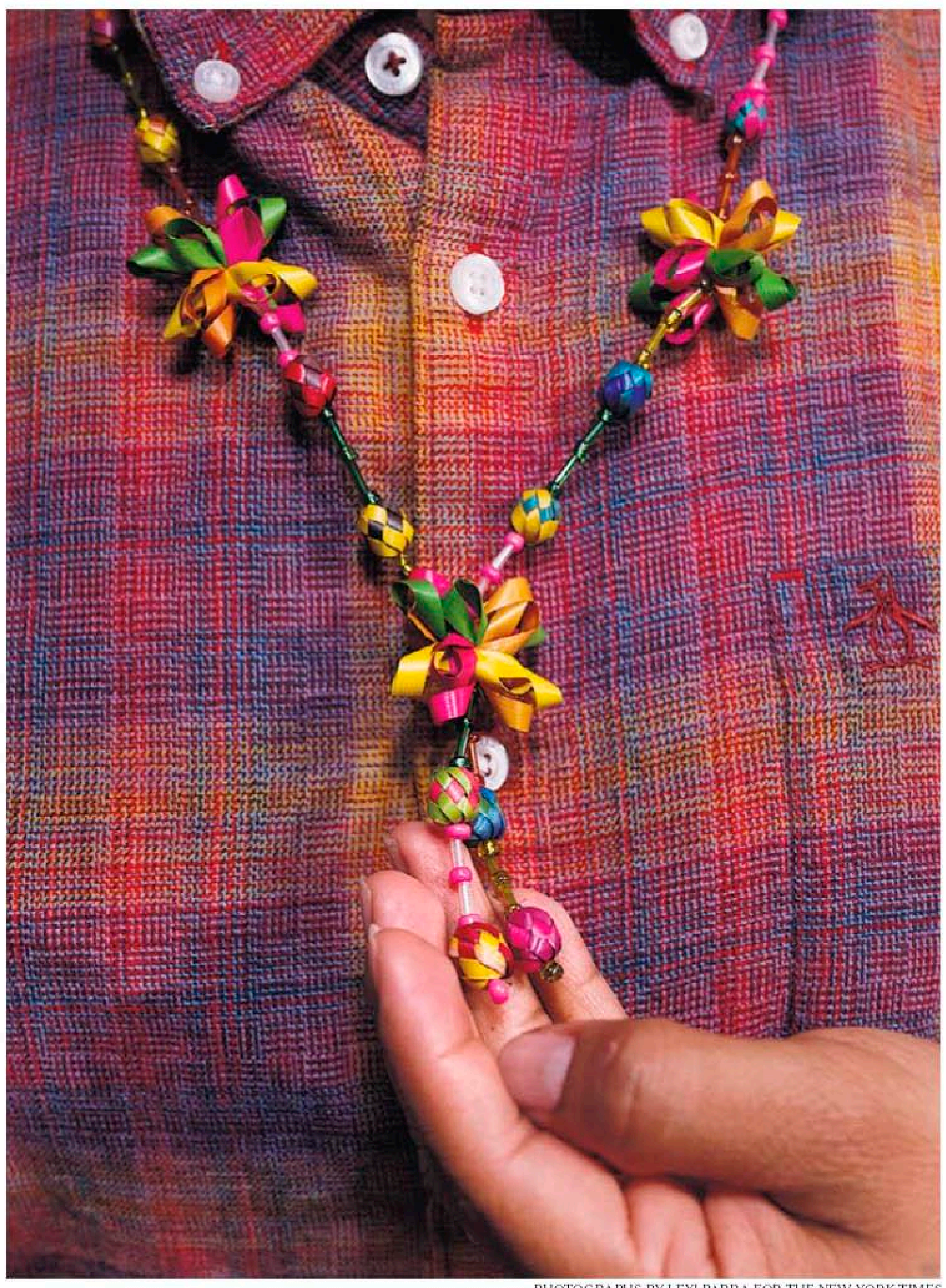
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Politics and Pozole in a Battle for Sunset Park









PHOTOGRAPHS BY LEXI PARRA FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Clockwise from top right: fresh tortillas; a traditional Mexican necklace; churros in a vendor's cart; bows on a vendor's table.

A street market in Brooklyn was a lifeline for some residents. Then the complaints began.

By JOHN LELAND

For Sonia Cortes, the battle for Sunset Park began with soup. Two years ago, after the pandemic wiped out her job as a seamstress, Ms. Cortes started selling pozole, a brothy Mexican soup, in the park, a 25-acre swath of green in southwestern Brooklyn. On a good Sunday, she could make $600 or $700. "I was able to pay my rent," she said.

By last fall, the Sunday market had grown to more than 80 vendors, mostly immigrant women selling Mexican street food and wares to large weekend crowds. They called it Plaza Tonatiuh, after an Aztec sun god. Every Sunday, there were musicians and children's activities; there were political education sessions, led by the market's organizers, members of an activist group called Mexicanos Unidos, discussing Mao Zedong's "Five Golden Rays" or Frantz Fanon's "The Wretched of the Earth."

Then last month, police and parks enforcement officers shut down the market, citing community complaints and the fact that Plaza Tonatiuh did not have a permit. On Easter Sunday, dozens of officers clashed violently with vendors and organizers, who locked arms in resistance. Two people were arrested.

"The police hurt us," said Ms. Cortes, who said she got pushed around in the fray.

Last month, police and parks officers shut down the market.

"They were violent toward us. We weren't selling, and they still took us out." A police spokesperson said that the crowd blocked efforts to reach one of the Plaza members, and that someone punched a parks officer.

Without the market, Ms. Cortes said, she now has $2,000 in bills she cannot pay. As she saw it, the closing of the Plaza pitted the city against some of its most vulnerable residents, who were simply trying to survive.

"They've taken bread off our table," she said.

Samuel Sierra, who has been using the park for five decades, took a different view of the Plaza. Last summer, he was distributing get-out-the-vote pamphlets for the Democratic County Committee when three of the Plaza Tonatiuh organizers told him he had to leave.

"They were very aggressive," Mr. Sierra said. "There's a feeling like they own the area." He added that he was not against vendors. "They have a right to prosper," he said. "But it shouldn't be at the expense of the community."

In a city where shared resources are scarce, who controls public space? Is a market of 80 vendors a bootstrap response to economic hardship? Or is it a private takeover of a neighborhood park?

The neighborhood Sunset Park is home to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Puttin' on the Spritz: The City's Last Old-School Works



JUAN ARREDONDO FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Alex Gomberg, a fourth-generation seltzer man, owns Brooklyn Seltzer Boys, started in 1953. It's the last factory to make seltzer in New York City.

Brooklyn Seltzer Boys has a century-old carbonator and a museum dedicated to bubbles.

By COREY KILGANNON

A century ago, before it was called sparkling water or club soda, and before it was sold as LaCroix and Spindrift, it was called seltzer. No plastic bottles or aluminum cans magically appeared on grocery shelves. Instead, factories across New York City pumped fizzy water into heavy siphon bottles that were distributed by deliverymen.

Nearly all those seltzer men are gone now; one seltzer works remains.

In an industrial space in the Cypress Hills section of Brooklyn, the Brooklyn Seltzer Boys factory is known among industry insiders, certain foodies and seltzer fans, but that's about it. Its owner, Alex Gomberg, wants to change that.

Originally called Gomberg Seltzer Works, the business was started in 1953 in Canarsie, Brooklyn, by Moe Gomberg, Mr. Gomberg's great-grandfather. After nearly closing for good during the pandemic, Brooklyn Seltzer moved and (somewhat) modernized its factory, introducing a visitable space called the Brooklyn Seltzer Museum.

"We want to introduce the next generation to seltzer," Mr. Gomberg said.

The museum, which is appointment only, features vintage bottles from seltzer companies all over the country and exhibitions on how the bubbly elixir is made, as well as its historical and cultural role.

Mr. Gomberg created the museum along with Barry Joseph, a seltzer historian — perhaps *the* seltzer historian — who also teaches digital learning and engagement for museums at New York University. Mr. Joseph arranged for a dozen graduate students from N.Y.U. and Columbia University, most of whom were from China and had never heard of seltzer, to help create the exhibitions as part of their studies.

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Sherbee Antiques
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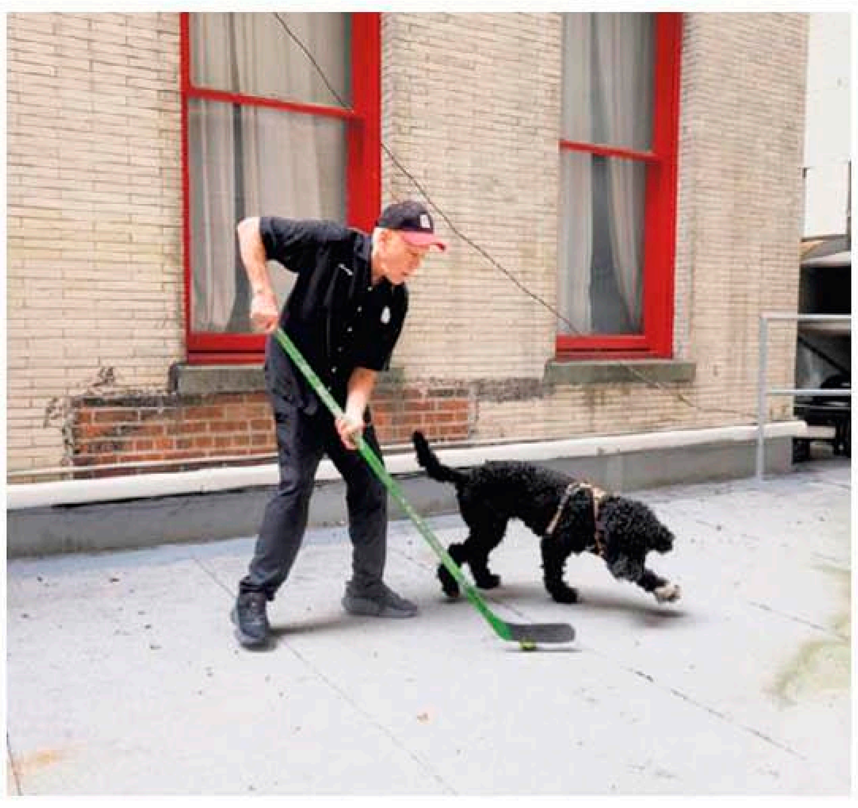
SUNDAY ROUTINE
JON ALPERT


PHOTOGRAPHS BY CARLY ZAVALA FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Still Throwing Jabs, and Fighting City Hall

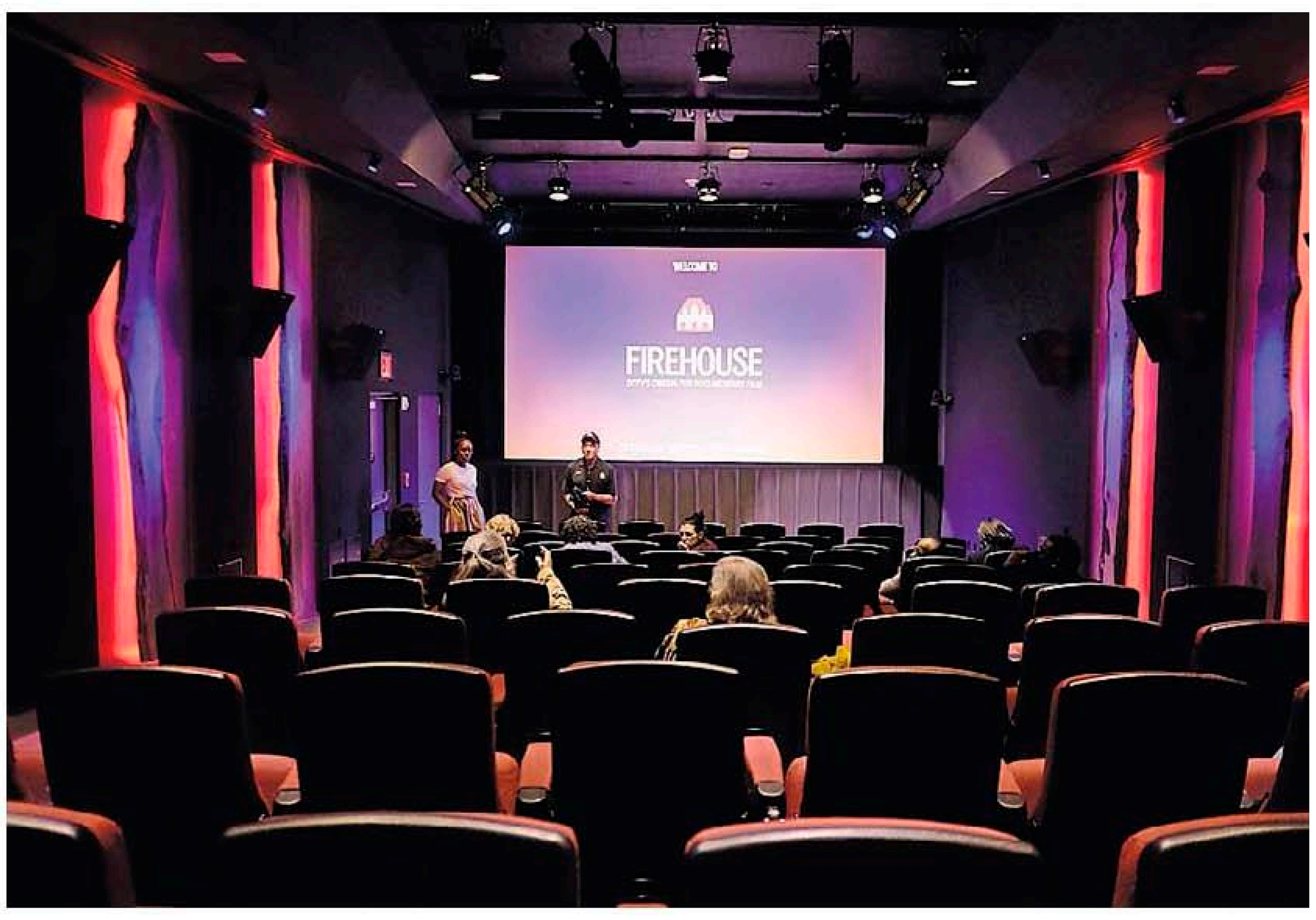
In the late 1960s, Jon Alpert conspired with his neighbor, Keiko Tsuno, to start making short films that tackled certain conditions and issues in Chinatown that they wanted to change. Making the documentaries "was like waving a magic wand," he said. "We began winning the fights and realized the power we had." They also realized they had power as a couple. Mr. Alpert and Ms. Tsuno married in 1971 and the following year founded the Downtown Community Television Center, a community hub that produces award-winning documentaries and offers screenings and classes. More than five decades later, their organization, which is inside of a renovated firehouse that the couple bought in 1981, is still thriving. Some 10,000 high school students have taken free documentary filmmaking classes there, said Mr. Alpert, a renowned director and producer himself. "Having a camera in my hands transformed a nebbish into someone who could make New York into a better place," he said. "To help others do the same is important to us." Mr. Alpert, 74, also lives in the firehouse, on the western edge of Chinatown, with his dog, a Barbet named Sager. Ms. Tsuno, 78, visits them every week from her home in northern New Jersey, or sometimes they will visit her. "She translates news broadcasts at 4 a.m. and sends them to Japan," he said. "We both keep odd hours."

ALIX STRAUSS



At 74, the head of a filmmaking center is a whirlwind of activity.





BORING BUT HEALTHY By 8 or 9 a.m., the annoying alarm that came with my iPhone goes off. My routine changed in February because I stopped alcohol, caffeine and dairy. Normally, I would have drunk a strong beer before I went to bed and made an espresso in the morning. It's boring now but healthier. I'm past thinking I'm indestructible.

ROOF CHASE During the pandemic, we got a puppy. He's a newly recognized breed called Barbet. There were 60 in the States. I had to call Frank in France — he's king of the Barbets. I went to pick Sager up in April 2021, once the lockdown lifted. We go up to our roof deck for 20 minutes, which is waterproof, and the surface works surprisingly well for using a hockey stick to fling balls so Sager can chase them.

LACE UP I'm a rink rat. I love ice hockey, but I'm not very good. If I'm not playing at the Staten Island Skating Pavilion, I'm in New Jersey by 9:30 a.m. driving in my white Tesla with Sager. Depending upon the day, I might play at Skylands Ice World or Coventry Farms, which is on my friend's farm. I'm the oldest player. I can't say I like that. I'm refusing to get my hip done. After we play, everyone grabs a drink. It's a moment of friendship.

PAPA JONNY I'm in the car by 1 p.m. and usually drive to one of my grandchildren's soccer games. My daughter, Tami, has three children, and they each play at a different place at the same time. I've become Papa Jonny. My father was gone by 6 a.m. and didn't get home from work until 11 p.m. Once in a while he would come to one of my games. It was important to me. I like sharing this with them. I try to be fair and rotate so everyone gets a turn. If there's time, we all get something to eat afterward.

'LIKE IN THE OLD DAYS' By 5 p.m., I meet with fellow Chinatown residents and a local councilman at the firehouse on how to fight the new jail the government is planning on building if they close Rikers. It's been opposed by everyone in the community for four years. We are not fighting the jail but the 40-story monstrosity they want to build 90 feet from the firehouse. We're making a movie about it, like in the old days.

SCREENING The theater is popping on Sundays with the documentary community because we do a screening at 7 p.m. The filmmaker could be there to talk about the film. All of the nominated Academy Award documentaries played here. Most recently I saw "How Do You Measure a Year?" It was nominated for best short doc. I really liked it. The filmmaker put his daughter on the same couch on her birthday, at the same time, for 17 years. It captured the beauty of youth and the torments of "teenagership." I also liked "Navalny: The Man Putin Couldn't Kill." It's about his life and the people who tried to kill him.

MORE EXERCISE I go to the basement with Sager where there's exercise equipment I've assembled. There's a weight lifting and elliptical machine, a recumbent bicycle, a heavy bag, a punching dummy and a makiwara, which is a punching board that focuses your punching and turns your hands into bricks. I bike for an hour, then use the rest of the equipment. I also throw balls for Sager to chase.

HORN I go back upstairs — or if Keiko is sleeping, I go in the car — and play my trumpet. I can't read music but I'm not a bad improviser. I get to play with the best musicians in the world because it's my playlist from my iPhone. They would be horrified at what I've done to their music. Last night, I played "Baby, Baby, Baby" by Delbert McClinton four times in a row. I was getting better each time, but there aren't any witnesses so it's hard to say. I sometimes use the app Smule, which lets me play an artist's arrangement while making adjustments to the acoustics, so I sound better than I am. I might send that to friends, and they can sing along. This became popular during the pandemic.

MIX AND MATCH By 12:30 a.m., I have something to eat. Food has become less material. I used to go to Sun Sai Gai on Canal or Di Palo's on Grand Street. Now I just like combining a lot of things that don't belong together like Chinese food, spaghetti sauce and dill pickles from the Pickle Guys. They taste good together and have a variety of textures. Then I look at my phone, shower and stretch my busted body parts.

WHITE NOISE I'm unable to put aside my constantly going brain, unless I'm distracted, and the BBC does the trick. It plays on the phone next to my bed and it tells me what's happened from a British perspective. It's my white noise. By the third news cycle, I'm out.

GINIA BELLAFANTE | BIG CITY

Fears About Density Complicate a Housing Crisis


JOHNNY MILANO FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Suburbs are not static, but some homeowners and politicians are resisting change.

The Mineola train station on Long Island. Some suburban homeowners in the New York metropolitan area have opposed the governor's plan to build housing near rail lines in commuter towns.

LAST WEEK, THE GOVERNOR of Washington, Jay Inslee, signed a law that would prevent cities and towns across the state from limiting themselves exclusively to the construction of single-family homes.

Washington, like the rest of the country, faces an acute housing shortage, driven in part by restrictive zoning codes that have long perpetuated racial and economic inequity. The new legislation would allow neighborhoods to meet shifting demographic realities, in the process delivering a greater social good — a couple living in a Tudor revival on a street full of old-growth trees, for example, might find themselves now next door to a triplex with a single doctor in one unit, a young couple with an infant in another, a widowed civil servant in a third.

A few years ago, both Oregon and Minneapolis — where roughly two-thirds of the city was zoned for single-family housing — passed similar laws after long and fierce debate, to discover in the end that the civic order did not implode.

Many in New York hoped that the final version of the state's $229 billion budget would include provisions of the same kind. Gov. Kathy Hochul had initially embedded a plan for 800,000 new units of housing to be built over a decade with a mandate for increasing density in towns and suburbs, especially in places close to commuter rail lines. It inspired the vision of low-rise apartment buildings with ground-floor coffee bars and bookstores that would bring cosmopolitan life to areas typically defined by the bleakness of parking spaces.

The plan was abandoned when it proved too controversial to keep budget negotiations with the legislature moving along. The resistance was also broad, particularly in regard to the notion that local zoning codes could be overridden, though Republicans in the state senate raised the most vocal opposition, calling the initiative "reckless and irresponsible," an effort to "solve New York City's housing crisis by turning Long Island into the sixth borough of New York City."

In his 1987 book, "Bourgeois Utopias," the historian Robert Fishman pointed out that "suburbia was at once the most characteristic product of explosive urban expansion and a desperate protest against it." Many politicians and homeowners are, in effect, still living within that tension, in denial of the ways the modern suburb reflects trends in domestic arrangements away from the traditional conception of family and toward a lifestyle and experience that feels distinctly metropolitan.

In recent years, it has almost become a cliché for real estate agents to describe commuter towns outside New York as "Brooklynish," even though the great virtue of Brooklyn is that nearly 2.6 million people live there, roughly half of them foreign-born, in apartment buildings.

Despite the pretenses we maintain, Mr. Fishman argued, suburbia is not static. Rapid growth in the 1940s and '50s fed the myth that suburbanization was an invention of the postwar period, when it had already become part of the American landscape in the 19th and early 20th centuries as city populations swelled. Unlike the Levittowns of 1957, these early suburbs were not as homogeneous, because the wealthy people who lived in them were so reliant on domestic labor. In the absence of efficient mass transit, the difficulty of getting to these places from big cities meant that a certain amount of work force housing had to be nearby.

Over the past several decades, the phobia around density has run deep, whether a particular community is distinguished by its liberal affluence, barre studios and Alsatian restaurants or by a more solidly middle-class law-and-order conservatism. In a survey conducted last year, 63 percent of those living in suburbs said that they believed density increased traffic congestion even though the opposite is often true, given that greater density is typically accompanied by larger investments in public transportation.

The more vaporous claim that density threatens a certain "way of life" requires us to ask: What way? In 1960, during the high period of the ranch house, 44 percent of American households were made up of married couples with children. By 2020, that figure had dropped to 19 percent. During the same period, the proportion of households containing only a single individual more than doubled, to 28 percent. We treat the single-family house as sacrosanct perhaps out of a desperation to ignore that the primacy of the single family has itself receded.

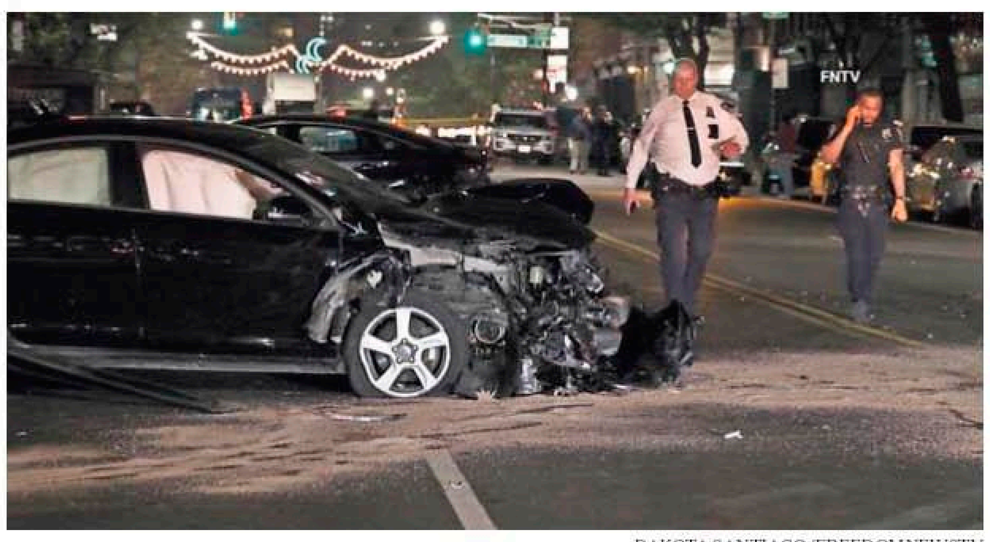
Across the country, suburbs have become much less racially and ethnically monolithic. In 2010, the population of Nassau County was 66 percent white; now it is 57 percent white. There are vibrant Hispanic, South Asian, Chinese and Korean communities.

Two months ago, about 150 homeowners in eastern Queens gathered to voice their displeasure over the governor's housing proposal. Reporting on the event, The Queens Chronicle noted that it represented an "unusual display of unity between racially different neighborhoods," close to the Long Island border. These constituents were eager to let their political leaders know that they would happily join the opposition there and in Westchester. While this particular housing proposal and other reforms that were cast aside in the budget talks could still pass, with some modifications, during the legislative session that ends next month, it seems unlikely given the intensity of feeling.

"We have a front yard, we have a backyard, we have a driveway," one participant said at the Queens meeting. "This is how we want our communities to stay."

EMAIL *bigcity@nytimes.com; follow Ginia Bellafante on Twitter: @GiniaNYT*

READER COMMENTS



DAKOTA SANTIAGO/FREEDOMNEWSTV

Last year, there were 257 traffic fatalities in the city, one fewer than there had been nine years ago, when a program that tries to cut the number of such deaths began.

On the Deadliest Streets of New York

Readers responded at nytimes.com to Ginia Bellafante's column on April 30 about how New York's efforts to reduce traffic fatalities seem to be failing. Comments have been edited.

CROSSING A STREET IN New York City has always felt dangerous. Since the pandemic, it seems that the traffic cops are all gone. The boxes are blocked, drivers weave through pedestrians like slalom racers, and you just hope for the best. If drivers were actually getting massive tickets for running lights and failing to yield, maybe we'd see some improvement — but it seems there's just no law enforcement anymore.

JAB, NEW YORK

I DON'T OWN A CAR, walk about five miles a day, never feel threatened by cars. As with most things in New York, you have to pay attention when you are crossing the street. On the other hand, I've had several close calls with mopeds and electric bikes going down the street the wrong way, riding on the sidewalk and making turns when they have a red light. This isn't rare. It is constant. Friends who ride conventional bikes have mentioned that many streets have become unsafe for cyclists because of the same problem. Yes, ticket the drivers who are violating traffic laws. But stop ignoring the moped and electric bike problem. They are also motorized vehicles.

DEBRA L. WOLF, NEW YORK

THE LACK OF ENFORCEMENT is what enrages so many New Yorkers. Drivers run red lights, speed and make illegal turns with impunity. The proliferation of altered plates makes even our few speed cameras a joke (not to mention the loss of toll revenue). Absolutely, we need to redesign the most dangerous streets and intersections. But here's what we can do right now: Put police at these places and ticket violators.

ELIZABETH, NEW YORK

ALLOWING PEDESTRIANS to cross before the traffic light turns is a nice idea, but in practice, most drivers watch the crosswalks and start their turn when the crosswalk light changes, rather than waiting for the traffic light. We really need better enforcement of traffic lights in general, as they seem to be considered optional or suggestions.

SARAH T, NEW YORK

THE NEW YORK POLICE DEPARTMENT has, for the most part, abdicated its role of traffic enforcement. Whether due to staffing shortages or to rank-and-file officers' deciding it's not worth the risk of a traffic stop escalating into a use-of-force altercation, the result is the same: dangerous drivers emboldened to drive more dangerously. I've often heard progressives say the N.Y.P.D. should not be doing traffic enforcement. Be careful what you wish for.

ANONYMOUS EX-COP, BROOKLYN

ON MANY OCCASIONS, I have seen cars driving by with their windows open and the strong smell of pot emanating, indicating pot newly smoked. Whether it's reduced attention or reaction time, pot smoking affects drivers. Could the legalization of pot with no accompanying laws against smoking and driving be responsible for some of these events? If yes, they were not accidents. They were murders by a deadly weapon: a car.

DINI BIGAJER, BROOKLYN

THERE IS NO ENFORCEMENT, and the word is out. And frankly, I don't blame cops for the slowdown in traffic enforcement. Pullovers are incredibly risky, and the police have been instructed by state attorneys general to overlook minor offenses. So with compliance waning, we resort to physical barriers like speed bumps. Ain't working. I walk everywhere, and the Mad Max driving I see on a daily basis is truly hair-raising.

MWR, NEW YORK

IT WOULD CUT DOWN ON accidents if people would leave their phones alone while driving. Riding a motorcycle, I sit high up enough to see what people in cars are doing. It's mind-boggling how many are texting, taking selfies or watching videos. The police don't seem to do anything about it. Perhaps we could use cameras to catch these dangerous drivers and mail them a big, fat ticket.

PNUT, THE DIRTY SOUTH



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Metropolitan Diary



ILLUSTRATIONS BY AGNES LEE



Favorite Painting

DEAR DIARY:

A few years ago, I went to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and, as is my habit, stopped in to say "hello" to my favorite painting, Velázquez's "Juan de Pareja."

My custom is to take a seat on the bench across from Juan, and then together we carry on, silently, having long intense conversations on art, philosophy, aesthetics, even politics.

On this particular occasion, as I entered the gallery, I saw a well-dressed, middle-aged woman sitting on my usual bench and staring at Juan.

I have become used to having Juan all to myself, so I was mildly annoyed. She was probably resting and would walk away in a few minutes, I thought to myself.

I sat down next to the woman, and began one of my typical unhurried conversations with Juan. After about 10 minutes, the woman was still sitting beside me.

Curious, I turned to her.

"A wonderful painting, isn't it?" I said.

She smiled.

"Yes, it is," she said, and then continued to stare silently at Juan.

"Do you come to the Met often," I asked.

"No, I live in Colorado, so I only come here a few times a year when I visit New York," she answered. "And when I am in New York, I always visit the Met so I can spend time with this painting."

And with that she stood up, said goodbye and walked away.

MARC SHANKER

Observations for this column may be sent to Metropolitan Diary at diary@nytimes.com or to The New York Times, 620 Eighth Avenue, New York, N.Y., 10018. Please include your name, mailing address and daytime telephone number. Submissions become the property of The Times and cannot be returned. They may be edited, and may be republished and adapted in all media.



Wrong Name

DEAR DIARY:

I was living in the Greenpoint section of Brooklyn, and I would walk my Silky Terrier, Bailey Puddin, around the neighborhood.

On my walks, I would often meet an older neighbor, James, as he sat on his front stoop one block over. One day I asked him whether he knew someone who could help me move.

Mary, he said, I will ask around and call you.

A week later, James saw me walking Bailey Puddin and told me he had tried to find me in the phone book and even called directory assistance, but there was no listing for a Mary Puddin.

James, I said, my last name is McLoughlin, not Puddin.

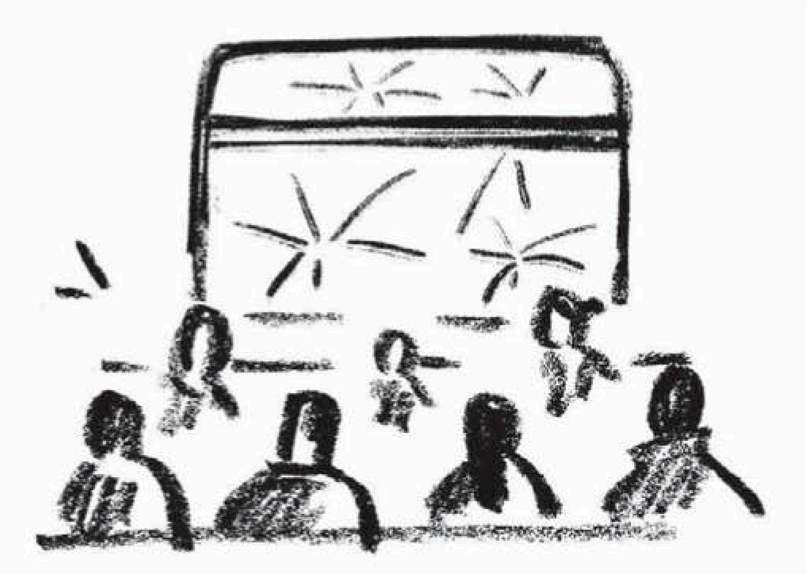
MARY McLOUGHLIN

May '83

DEAR DIARY:

It was a late evening in May 1983, and it happened to be the 100th anniversary of the Brooklyn Bridge. I was a trading assistant at Lehman Brothers living in the decidedly unglamorous neighborhood of Park Slope, Brooklyn.

The trains were less reliable then than they are now, and I always had a plan B to get home if there was a problem taking the 2 or 3 at Wall Street.



It was one of those days. Feeling miserable after a long day as a kid on the trading floor, I waited on the platform to get home. The train I was planning to take had just been pulled out of service.

I left the Wall Street station and walked to the Broad Street station to take a different train. One finally came and I was on my way home.

The train trundled up to the Manhattan Bridge, got halfway across and suddenly stopped. We sat there for a few minutes wondering what was going on.

Then the lights went out and we all sighed, thinking the worst. Just then the conductor's voice came over the.

"It's showtime, folks!" he said.

We sat on the train in the dark in the middle of the bridge and the East River watching the fireworks celebrating the Brooklyn Bridge for over five minutes from the best seats in the house.

PETER J. GOLDMAN



Sneak Attack

DEAR DIARY:

Monroe Street in Brooklyn. The early 1950s. One or two hours of daylight left on a hot summer evening.

Dinner was over, and a bunch of us kids were hanging around near the corner of Ralph Avenue, mostly doing nothing.

Coming our way from Patchen Avenue was a kid on a bike. Nothing special; no one we recognized.

Suddenly, from a stash in his handlebar basket he began pelting us with seriously overripe tomatoes.

None of us escaped the onslaught. And none of us could react before he sped off across the trolley tracks on Ralph Avenue and disappeared.

We never saw him again. But as I stood there covered in rancid tomato slime, I had to admit: "The guy was good."

THEODORE O'NEILL

Moving In

DEAR DIARY:

I was in an elevator at a friend's building. There were two other people in the elevator I didn't know.

The elevator stopped, and a woman who appeared to be about 30 got on.

"Do you live here?" one of the other passengers asked her.

"Yes," she replied, explaining that her fiancé lived in 16C. "I just moved in."

"Oh," the other woman said, "you're marrying into a really good building."

MARTINE J. BYER



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Puttin' on the Spritz: The City's Last Old-School Works





PHOTOGRAPHS BY JUAN ARREDONDO FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"They caught on quick," Mr. Joseph said. "They got it."

Earlier this month at the Cypress Hills space, Mr. Joseph walked along a wall showing a 2,500-year-old seltzer history timeline that dated to ancient Greece. He inspected illustrations of how seltzer is made and bottled, as well as digital 3-D models of the machines.

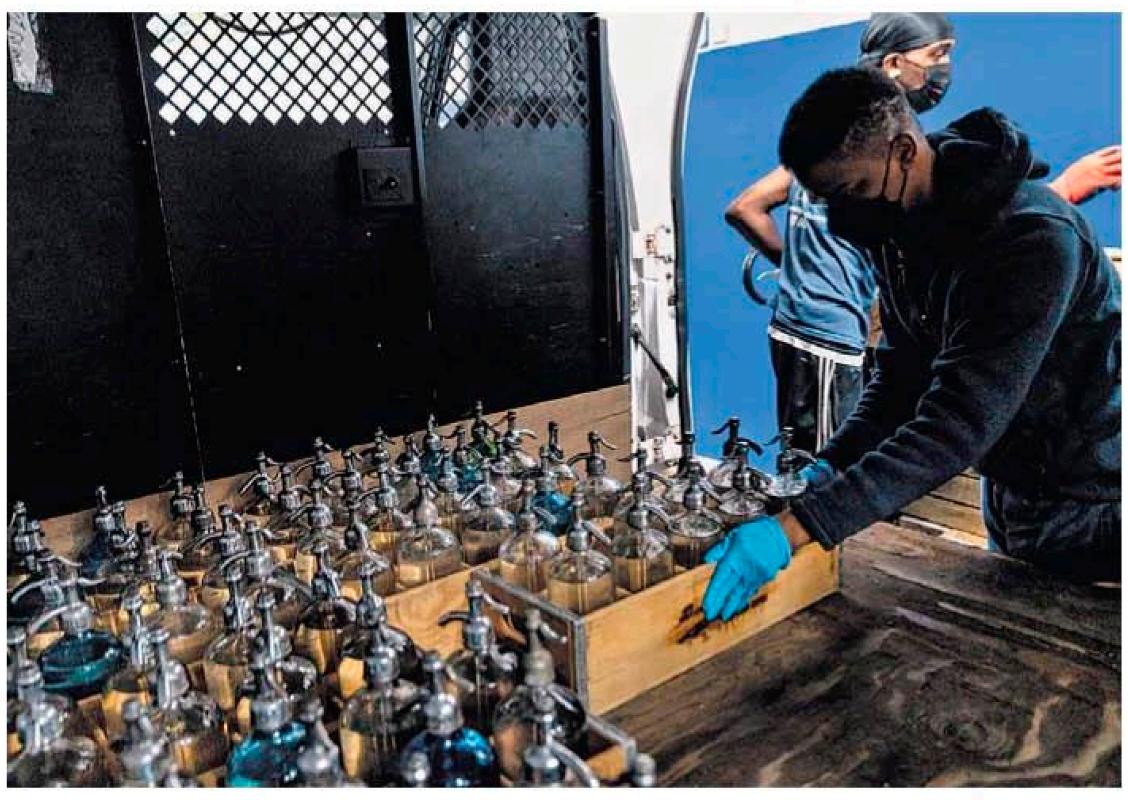
New York seltzer, which has become a culinary staple in the city like knishes and Dr. Brown's Cel-Ray soda, has its own history, Mr. Joseph said.

Many Eastern European Jews who enjoyed seltzer overseas began making, delivering and selling it in the early 1900s, largely on the Lower East Side. They also sold it from soda fountains — either straight up, as a citrus concoction known as a lime rickey, or with milk and chocolate syrup known as an egg cream.

While many Americans switched to soda after World War II, many Jews in the city stuck with seltzer, Mr. Joseph said.

At Brooklyn Seltzer Boys, the museum and the factory can merge into one educational experience. Next to the exhibitions, delivery workers back up their trucks into an area to drop off cases of empty bottles and pick up freshly filled ones. Workers buzz around cleaning and refilling, and repairing old nozzle tops.

There is also a spritzing station where visitors can spray seltzer from a bottle, Three Stooges style. "We wanted to present the rich history of seltzer in New York City within a longstanding mom-and-pop business that still serves as a functioning seltzer works," Mr. Joseph said.



The seltzer-making area is a Willy Wonka series of units connected by pipes. The star of the show — and the company's workhorse — is a squat, century-old carbonator that blasts bubbles into triple-filtered tap water at a 43-degree chill. Its 65 pounds per square inch of pressure — too strong for plastic bottles, hence the use of handblown glass bottles made in Europe — breathes bite into an egg cream.

"Good seltzer should hurt; it should be carbonated enough that it kind of stings the back of your throat," said Mr. Gomberg, who earned a master's degree in higher education before opting to revive his family's abandoned delivery service a decade ago. Now his crew has roughly 600 customers (a 10-bottle case costs $50, including delivery). In 2020, the coronavirus pandemic halted seltzer production and almost persuaded the Gomberg family to shutter the business for good. Instead, they sold the building and bought their current factory in Cypress Hills.

"He found a way to reinvent the business," said Alex's father, Kenny Gomberg, who took over from his father, Pacey Gomberg, and brother-in-law Irv Resnick.

Now the elder Gomberg, who built most of the factory himself, is basically his son's handyman; he is virtually the only one who can repair these obsolete machines.

On a recent afternoon, Walter Backerman, 70, was filling his bottles when a ratty old van backed in. His father, Abraham Backerman, known as Big Al, was buried with a seltzer bottle. The younger Mr. Backerman, one of the last of the old-school seltzer men, hobbles from years of lugging cases up and down stairs. His carrying shoulder is shot. Each case weighs more than 60 pounds full and 45 empty, he said.

But he still wakes before 4 a.m. to serve his customers, partly to keep the seltzer man tradition going.

"These bottles are basically indestructible; I'm just their custodian," he said. "And since the Gombergs decided to reinvest and keep the last seltzer works going, someone else will be able to deliver these bottles after I'm gone."

Clockwise from top left: Brooklyn Seltzer Museum; vintage 26-ounce seltzer bottles; workers and delivery trucks make rounds throughout the New York area.

The museum has a station where visitors can spray each other.



PHOTOGRAPHS BY LEXI PARRA FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Politics and Pozole in a Battle for Sunset Park

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

large working-class Asian and Latino populations, bordered by Park Slope to the north and Bay Ridge to the south. The development known as Industry City, along the neighborhood's western edge, has brought an influx of new money and tensions over gentrification. The park itself, with grassy expanses and views of the Statue of Liberty and Lower Manhattan, brings together all the population groups.

Following the Easter confrontation, Alexa Avilés, who represents Sunset Park in the City Council, called a community meeting that quickly became contentious. Vendors and organizers waved signs reading "Decriminalize Street Vendors" and "We Want Cops Out of Our Park," and called on elected officials to come up with a solution. Two young children started to describe being in the park during the police sweep, but they stopped in tears.

Then at a signal from Brian Garita, a founder of Plaza Tonatiuh, the vendors and organizers all walked out.

"Comrades, we said what we wanted to say," Mr. Garita told the group outside the meeting. "There was no reason for us to stay there."

Mr. Garita, 26, sees the Plaza as a step toward a broader radical movement. Critics say he is the problem, an outsider pursuing an ideological agenda.

Mr. Garita, who also uses the first name Leo, has a master's degree in public administration and urban development and sustainability, and he works four days a week as a barista in Prospect Heights, Brooklyn. He grew up in Sunset Park, he said, and now lives in Bensonhurst, Brooklyn. "I was displaced," he said.

In the park, he is the guy with the bullhorn.

In the spring of 2020, he was working at a nonprofit organization in the Bronx when the murder of a Mexican American soldier named Vanessa Guillén at Fort Hood in Texas set off demonstrations around the country. From these demonstrations, Mr. Garita helped start Mexicanos Unidos to connect the protests over Ms. Guillén's murder with other movements, including Black Lives Matter.

The following March, he focused on the vendors in Sunset Park, organizing them into a unified market and holding political education sessions.

"We talk about the things that are going on around us, these patterns of colonialism, gentrification, oppressor and oppressed," said Roy Baizan, one of the organizers, who comes to the park from the Bronx.

But as the market grew, neighbors started to complain, Ms. Avilés said. Many vendors used open flames, which are banned in the park, and she said that residents objected that it was hard to pass through the market.

"Also, we started to get some vendors who felt intimidated by the tactics of the organizers," she added. Some vendors complained that they had to pay to be part of the Plaza.

"I'm sympathetic," said Ms. Avilés, a Democrat who belongs to the Democratic Socialists of America. "My aunt used to make clothes and we would sell them on the street. But this is public space, and there were real tensions with commandeering public space and controlling it. You can't do that."

Benito Bravo, who runs children's folkloric dance performances in the park, said a Plaza Tonatiuh organizer told him last year during a Day of the Dead performance that he had to leave.







"He told me, 'If you don't go out, I'll have to call my people,'" Mr. Bravo said. "Thirty people came up to me saying, 'If you don't go, it will be problems for you.' They were in my face, and all my kids are crying."

During one clash with parks enforcement officers last year, Mr. Garita threw a plate of food and was charged with assault in the second degree. The charge was dismissed this month because he was not given a speedy trial.

Mr. Garita said the Plaza does not charge vendors to participate, but all had to be approved to be part of it. He made no apologies for keeping some people out of the market. But despite his vocal presence within Plaza Tonatiuh, Mr. Garita has no authority over who may or may not use the park.

"The people that we have been confrontational with have only been opportunistic people," Mr. Garita said. "People who are electioneering, who come to the park and press these candidates that no one's ever seen. We don't support that type of electioneering tactic. We've been confrontational with people who come to promote themselves. This is a collective thing, and we have to support the whole before the parts."

Top, a birthday celebration last Sunday at the indoor Plaza Tonatiuh location. Center row: Brian Garita, right, a founder of Plaza Tonatiuh who also goes by Leo, at a protest in Sunset Park last month; and a vendor, left, showing support for the Plaza. Above, Sonia Cortes selling pozole last Sunday.

Vendors say the city's permitting process is onerous and prohibitive.

Critics of the Plaza say the organizers are putting vendors — many of them undocumented immigrants — at risk, provoking clashes with law enforcement.

"They're using these vendors to make a broader point about law enforcement, about bureaucratic processes, a whole bunch of things," said Andrew Gounardes, a Democratic state senator whose district includes Sunset Park. "And the vendors are the ones caught in the middle."

Edwin Rodriguez, NYC Parks' assistant commissioner for urban park service, said that for the past two years, outreach to vendors on the permitting process has been met with aggression, particularly from several of the organizers. "From an enforcement perspective," Mr. Rodriguez said, "the vendors have been very peaceful, while the organizers have not, playing an oversized role in crowd agitation."

Vendors say the city's permitting process is too onerous. The city capped the number of permits back in the 1980s, with little growth since then, said Mohamed Attia, the managing director of the Street Vendor Project at the Urban Justice Center, so most of the city's estimated 20,000 vendors operate without the required permits or licenses. Since the pandemic, he said, the number of vendors has soared, and so has the number of tickets issued, which can carry a fine of $1,000.

On a recent Sunday, a few dozen vendors and organizers gathered in an industrial building near Sunset Park for a private version of the Plaza, with children's activities. A D.J. played Latin and pop music, vendors offered food and T-shirts, and a woman led a tea-making workshop. Without the park's crowds, or exposure to police, the gathering was more social than economic.

Blanca Nicolas and her daughter, Ariana Garcia, prepared elotes — ears of corn slathered with lime juice and mayonnaise, then sprinkled with red chili pepper and cheese — for sale to other vendors and organizers.

Ms. Nicolas said she appreciated the organizers' political agenda. "We learn more about what we can do," she said. And selling in the market had made her 12-year-old son more outgoing, she said.

Ms. Avilés, the City Council member, said she was working to find other places for the Plaza — maybe a closed street, maybe smaller-scale markets in different parts of the neighborhood.

Mr. Garita said he, too, was looking for other venues. But in the meantime, he was working with lawyers to expand the project to include a workers' cooperative and an ad hoc credit union, or tanda. "We're even looking ahead to seeing if we can run a candidate in Sunset Park in the future," he said.

Ms. Cortes, with her $2,000 in unpaid bills, tried to remain optimistic. For two years, she and the other vendors had managed to survive the turmoil caused by the pandemic. Now, if they returned to the market that had sustained them, they risked arrest or confrontation. Yet they needed the income to stay afloat.

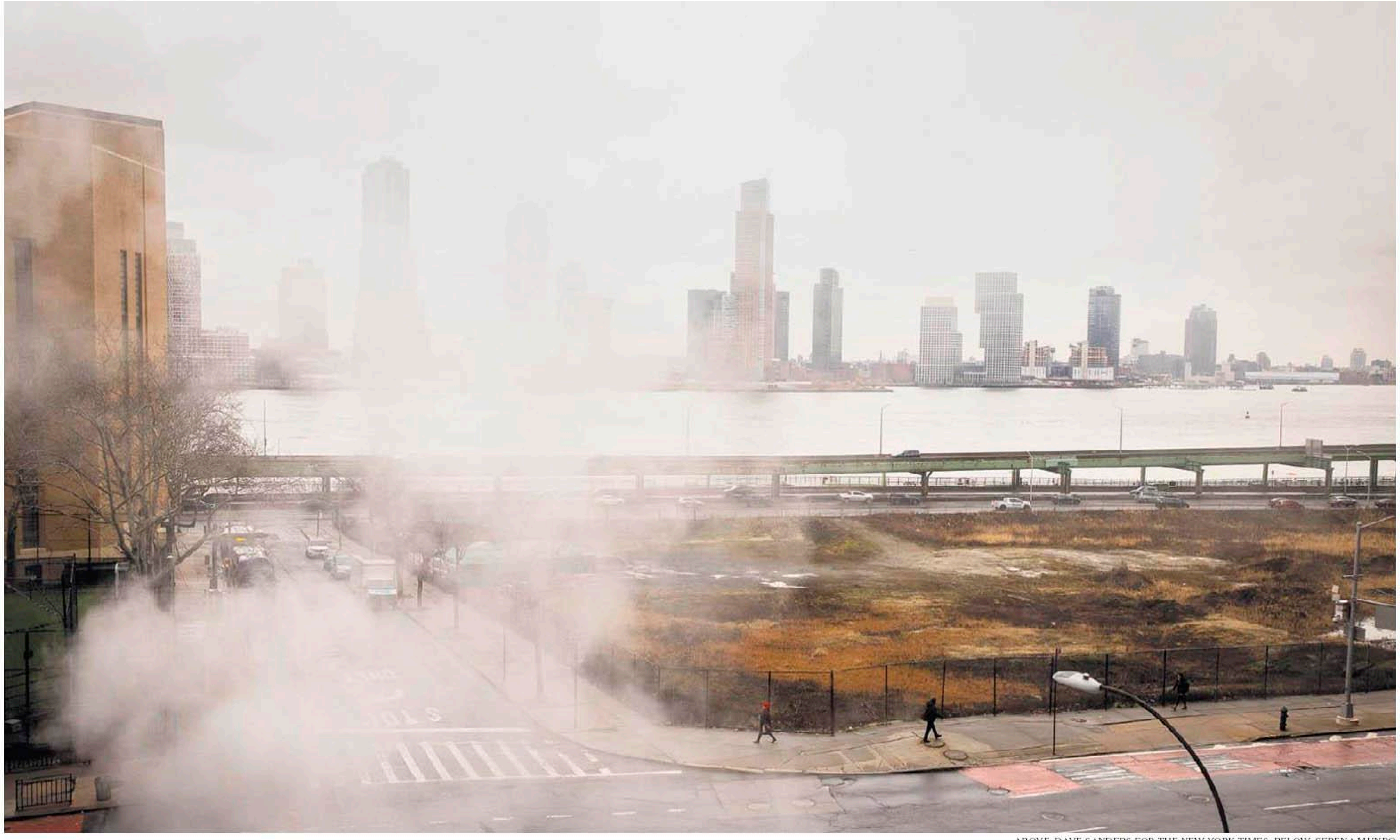
"We're going to go back to selling," she said. "God willing."

Jo Corona and Lexi Parra contributed reporting.

Lighting the Way for a Proposed Manhattan Casino

Can an art installation on a vacant strip of land help a bid for a coveted license?

By STEFANOS CHEN



ABOVE, DAVE SANDERS FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES; BELOW, SERENA MUNRO

If the owners of one of the largest undeveloped sites in Manhattan get their way, they could soon be building one of New York's first Vegas-style casinos on a craggy, waterlogged field next to the United Nations.

But first, a gesture of good will. Soloviev Group, the developer, is commissioning the artist Bruce Munro to install a light installation on the 6.7-acre site that will be free to the public and open for at least a year, starting in late September, the firm said.

The art piece, "Field of Light," an arrangement of 17,000 flowerlike fiber optic stems, will be staked, mounted and lit up in a kaleidoscope of colors on a vacant stretch of First Avenue between East 38th and 41st Streets.

The Soloviev Foundation, a charitable arm of the development firm, will cover the $1.5 million cost of installing and maintaining the display, said Michael Hershman, the chief executive of Soloviev Group. "It's a gift to New York," he said.

So begins the next stage of the campaign to win over a wary public, in a competition to secure one of three lucrative gambling licenses in the New York City area.

At least 10 firms are seeking to build casinos in the city, in Westchester County and on Long Island, with pitches for sites in Times Square, Hudson Yards, next to Citi Field and even atop Saks Fifth Avenue. A key element to all those plans will be buy-in from local politicians and residents, who will have substantial sway in the approval process.

The art installation demonstrates the lengths that developers are going to in order to win a permit in the New York City area, one of the last untapped gambling markets in the country.

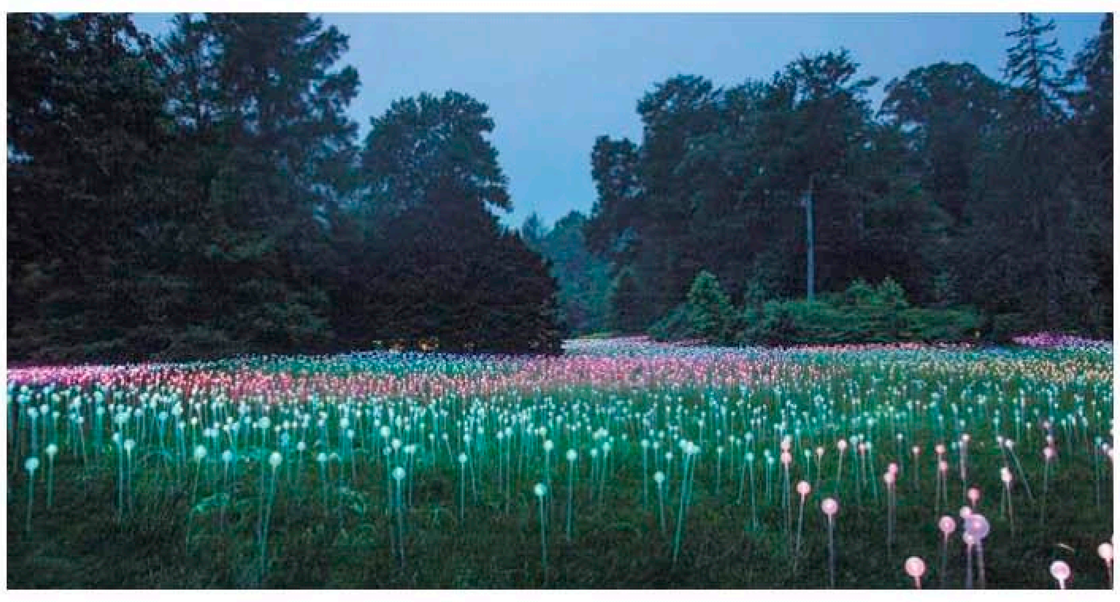
The Soloviev casino would be the centerpiece of a mixed-use development called Freedom Plaza, which could include a 1,200-room hotel, two residential towers with about 1,500 condo and rental units, a portion of which would be offered below market rate, and a new museum that would include slabs of the Berlin Wall.

The casino would be mostly below street level, along with about 1,700 parking spaces for residents and guests, Mr. Hershman said. The developer is working with Mohegan, the casino and resort operator.

Keen to win the approval of the local community board, which opposes the project, Mr. Hershman said his group had already abandoned plans for its most outlandish feature, a giant Ferris wheel reminiscent of the London Eye.

The developer had received criticism about the original design, and "we're taking it to heart," Mr. Hershman said.

The gesture may only go so far. Kyle Athayde, the chair of Community Board 6, said the board remained opposed to the project because the community benefits would not outweigh the disruption of a casino.



Top, a casino has been proposed for land near the United Nations. A light installation, similar to what is shown above, will go on the site later this year.

An artist says the site is 'sort of a wasteland at the moment.'

"These are just distractions to get the real moneymaker through," Mr. Athayde said. "In the end, we get the bread crumbs."

The developers have proposed leaving five acres of the site unobstructed by buildings. The light show will be installed in that space.

Mr. Munro, the artist, said he drew inspiration for the project from visiting the rugged Northern Territory of Australia, a far cry from the bustle of Midtown.

"It's a very gentle installation," he said, adding that he was drawn to the "undeveloped" nature of the New York site. "It's sort of a wasteland at the moment," he said.

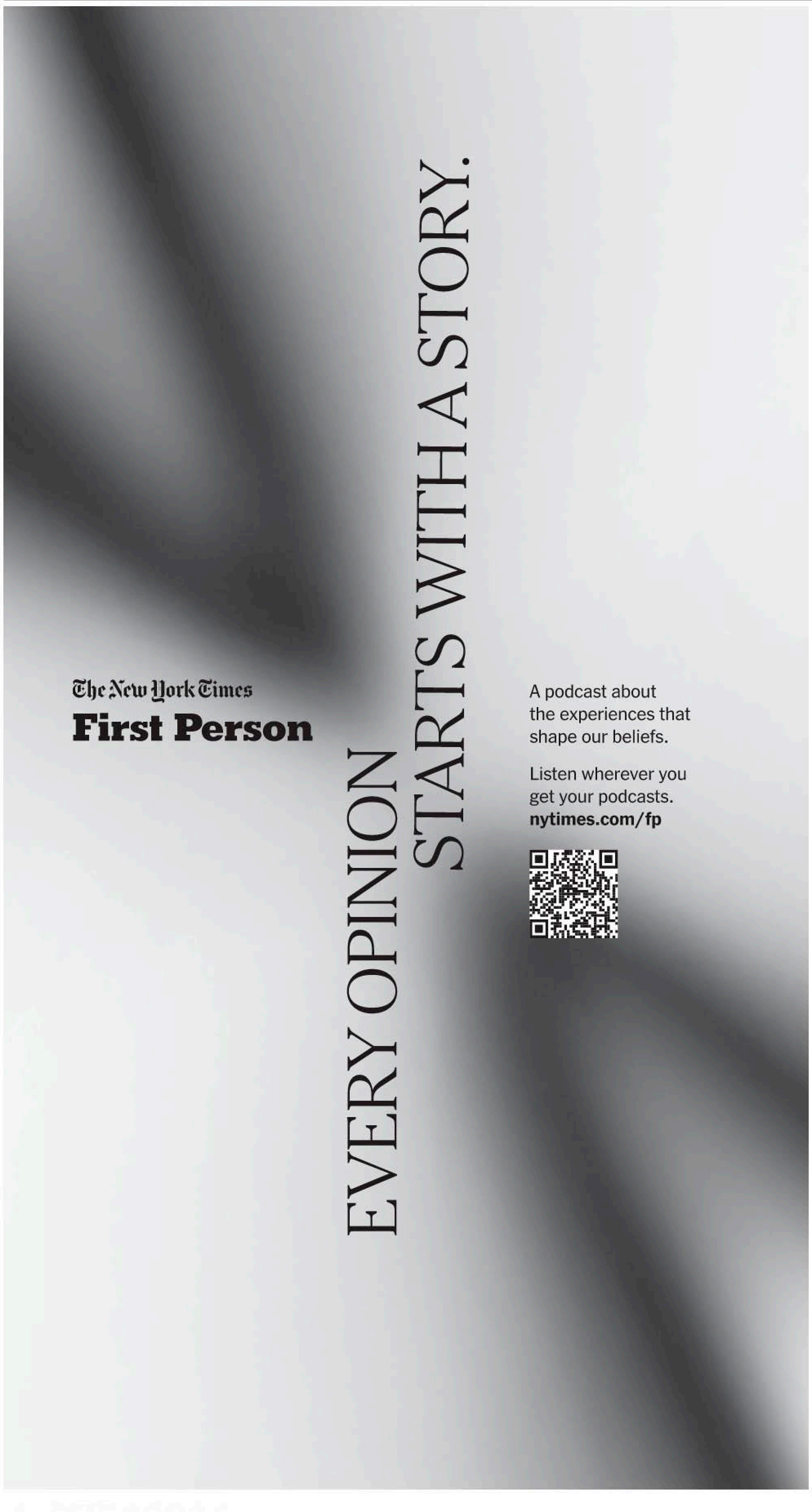
Changes at the site are a long time coming. Sheldon H. Solow, the former head of what is now the Soloviev Group, and a partner bought the property, a onetime Con Edison power plant, for $630 million in 2000. After years of legal wrangling, the city approved a multibillion-dollar development plan, but poor market conditions and the pandemic stalled the project.

Today, the site — a sloping, weedy field with rock outcroppings and birds wading in deep puddles — will require major remediation to host the light show. Mr. Hershman said the company planned to spend $500,000 to fix the cracked sidewalks around the lot.

A decision on where casinos will be permitted in the city is at least several months away, and it could be years before a ground-up project is built. To advance in the selection process, bidders must win the support of four out of six members of a committee to be selected by local and state politicians.

In the meantime, Mr. Munro said he was excited to bring to New York a project that has "become a bit of an obsession" since his trip to the Australian desert in the early 1990s.

"I hope it cheers people up," he said. "I hope it brings a smile to their faces."



Cube Departs for Some R&R



JASON SZENES/EPA, VIA SHUTTERSTOCK

Tony Rosenthal's "Alamo (Cube)," created in 1967, is expected to spin again when it returns.

The Astor Place sculpture should be back this summer after a tuneup in Connecticut.

By JAMES BARRON

The Astor Place cube — which has spent most of its 56 years twirling cheerfully — was hauled away Monday night for repairs. A crane, a flatbed truck and a couple of city agencies assisted with the getaway.

It won't be gone long. It is expected to return in midsummer after a round of much-needed repairs at a foundry in Connecticut that fabricates and fixes sculptures.

The refurbishing, estimated to cost $100,000, will be paid for not by the city but by the estate of the sculptor who created the cube in 1967, Tony Rosenthal. Dave Petrie, the director of Mr. Rosenthal's estate, said he was "concerned about the state of disrepair" the cube had fallen into. It has not been spinnable since 2021.

"The thesis was, we want to do this," he said. "The cost wasn't the issue. We want Tony's legacy to live on."

He and the city's Transportation Department, which is responsible for the cube and 21 other art installations around the city, said the restoration would let it rotate freely again. That will bring back the wondrousness of a giant urban plaything, an eight-foot-cubic installation that Mr. Rosenthal initially imagined as only a temporary piece.

It stayed put long after the scheduled remove-by date because people in the neighborhood petitioned the city. "Rosenthal's artistic vision in the 1960s has managed to capture the imagination and spirit of the whole East Village community for decades," the transportation commissioner, Ydanis Rodriguez, said this past week.

The cube, formally known as "Alamo (Cube)," was mentioned in travel guides and figured in a play. The website Curbed summed up its unshakable place in the landscape by saying it had spent "more than half a century being spun by drunk N.Y.U. students and curious tourists."

So people noticed when the cube stopped twirling, and not just drunken N.Y.U. students. Mr. Petrie said in an interview that the spinning mechanism had separated from the base. He also said that an inspection had found a few small holes in the cube's Cor-Ten steel skin.

Transportation Department officials said last year that there was another problem: Like the Tower of Pisa, it was leaning.

The repairs will straighten it up and spiff it up with five coats of paint, Mr. Petrie said. "It will look like a brand-new car," he said. "We know it's got, say, 500,000 miles on it."

Mr. Petrie said the cube had been "embraced by people," sometimes literally, for generations. "It's not just a piece that you look at and admire," he said.

Mr. Rosenthal himself once called it "a very friendly object." (He died in 2009.) And Mr. Rodriguez said the cube was "best enjoyed when it is touched and spun with friends."

It was first called "Sculpture in Environment," but Mr. Rosenthal's wife, Cynthia Rosenthal, renamed it because it was massive in ways that reminded her of the Texas fortress. It was the first of several large Rosenthal installations in the city, among them "Rondo" (1969), a bronze circle in front of the New York Public Library branch at 127 East 58th Street, and "5 in 1" (1973), outside One Police Plaza, a name that was said to take into account its five interlocking steel disks as well as the city's five boroughs.

The cube has needed work before. It was taken away in 2005 when it had the same problem it has now — it could no longer be spun easily. The same fabricator that will do the restoration this time tended to it then, and among other things, found that water had collected inside, in the corners of the cube. Workers removed rust and unclogged drainage holes that water was supposed to escape through. Cross beams were added to the base, reinforcing it. It underwent another restoration in 2014. ✶